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TRANSACTIONS

OF

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE

Antiquarian Society.

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DIDSBURY CHURCH.

FROM THE OLD PARSONAGE GARDEN.

TRANSACTIONS

OF THE

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY.

VOL. XII.—1894.

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1895.

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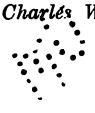
This volume is edited by Mr. Charles W. Sutton.



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VISITS AND EXCURSIONS MADE BY THE SOCIETY IN 1894.

May 3rd.—Didsbury.

June 16th.—Ince Blundell Hall and Sephton Church.

July 7th.—Birkenhead Priory and Bidston Church.

August 18th.—Bollington and Rainow.

September 8th.—Turton: Ancient Stone Circles on Chetham's Close.

October 13th.—Wardley Hall.

No meeting was held at Whitsuntide.

Meetings for the Reading of Papers, Discussions, and Exhibition of Antiquities were held monthly during the winter session in the Chetham College, Manchester, and a special meeting was held on November 29th at the Manchester Town Hall.

CONTENTS.

PAGE

ANCIENT FORDS, FERRIES, AND BRIDGES IN LANCASHIRE. By William Harrison - - - - - - - - - - - 1

AN ACCOUNT OF THE OPENING OF A LARGE TUMULUS NEAR STONYHURST, LANCASHIRE. By the Rev. J. R. Luck, S.J. - 30

THE STONE CIRCLES ON CHETHAM'S CLOSE. By Major Gilbert J. French - - - - - - - - - - - - - 42

CHRONOLOGICAL NOTES ON THE VISITATIONS OF PLAGUE IN LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE. By William E A. Axon - 52

THE OLDEST CHURCH IN LANCASHIRE. By Monsignor Robert Gradwell - - - - - - - - - - - - 101

PROCEEDINGS - - - - - - - - - - - - 104

APPENDIX I. By John Hibbert Swann:

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE ANTIQUITIES AND BIOGRAPHY, 1893 AND 1894 - - - - - - - 148

"DICTIONARY OF NATIONAL BIOGRAPHY." BIOGRAPHIES OF LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE MEN AND WOMEN - - 161

APPENDIX II.:

SUBJECT INDEX TO THE BIBLIOGRAPHY OF LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE ANTIQUITIES, 1893 AND 1894 - - - - 163

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL - - - - - - - - - 171

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT - - - - - - - - - - 178

RULES - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 179

LIST OF MEMBERS - - - - - - - - - - - 184

INDEX - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 195

ILLUSTRATIONS.

	PAGE
Didsbury Church - - - - - - - -	*Frontispiece.*
Ancient Bridges:	
Warrington - - - - - - - - - -	12
Salford - - - - - - - - - - -	20
Agecroft - - - - - - - - - - -	20
Ringley - - - - - - - - - - -	20
Blackford - - - - - - - - - -	22
Ribble (Walton) - - - - - - - - -	26
Old Hodder - - - - - - - - - -	28
Mound near Stonyhurst - - - - - - - -	40
Druidical Circle - - - - - - - - - -	46
British Celt - - - - - - - - - -	49
British Standard - - - - - - - - - -	49
Stone Circle - - - - - - - - - -	50
Roman Road (Tatham and Bentham) - - - - -	122
Perforated Axe-Hammer - - - - - - - -	135
Bronze Roman Fibula - - - - - - - - -	139

ANCIENT FORDS, FERRIES, AND BRIDGES IN LANCASHIRE.

BY WILLIAM HARRISON.*

AMONG the symbols devised by a committee of the Society of Antiquaries for use in the proposed county maps of the mediæval period there are included one to denote "ancient bridges," and another to denote "fords." As such a map will, I hope, be prepared for our two counties as soon as the Archæological Map now in the press is fairly completed, it is not too early to be getting together the material upon which it is to be founded. As one step in that direction I propose to collect in this paper what is known in regard to the two items I have mentioned, and to include with them another not provided for in the scheme, but which, nevertheless, in Lancashire, at least, ought not to be left out, viz., the ancient ferries. Fords, ferries, and bridges exhaust amongst them all the possible modes of crossing rivers in ancient times, when there were no Mersey tunnels, and, so far as we are aware, no anticipations of that coming wonder, the flying machine.

---

*For the illustrations to this paper the Society is indebted to Mr. G. H. Rowbotham.

At the present day it is so rare to find a highway unprovided with a substantial bridge at the crossing of even a small brook that we are apt to forget how much a matter of course it was for our forefathers, in not very remote times, to find constant obstacles to their journeyings in the flowing streams. The brook which runs

> By twenty thorps, a little town,
> And half a hundred bridges,

though it does run on for ever, is not the same brook in its circumstances as the one which our ancestors knew. Their experience led them to think little of fording brooks or, in ordinary summer weather, even the larger rivers in many places. As Jacob of old passed over the ford Jabbok (*Genesis* xxxii. 22); as the fords of Jordan were used by the men of Jericho (*Joshua* ii. 7); as Queen Guinevere—

> A single maiden with her
> Took horse and forded Usk, and gained the wood;

and as Prince Geraint, immediately afterwards, "Came quickly flashing thro' the shallow ford," so did our fathers continue to cross the streams in their journeys until quite modern times. The experience of ages had taught them the most suitable spots for the purpose, where the river was shallow and broad and had a gravelly or stony bottom, and no doubt the foundation of many villages and towns was due to the existence of such convenient places for passing, for, as we shall see illustrated in our own county, the word "ford" often enters as a component part into the names of places. This fact alone is very significant. "Nothing," says Canon Taylor (*Words and Places*, second edition, p. 253), "shews more conclusively the unbridged state of the streams than the

fact that, where the great lines of Roman road are intersected by rivers, we so frequently find important towns bearing the Saxon suffix 'ford.'"

But the fords were not always equally passable. In times of flood, "when the waters were out," as the phrase went, and the stream came raging down, the perils of travel became very real. The expectant maiden of *In Memoriam*, when she found

> Her future lord
> Was drown'd in passing through the ford,

experienced no uncommon sorrow. Nor even in ordinary times were the fords always safe, for excessive traffic sometimes led to their becoming cut up and worn. Of this we have an illustration in the Kenyon papers recently published by the Historical Manuscripts Commission. In 1632 the quarter sessions at Preston made an order levying a tax of two-fifteenths on the hundred of Blackburn towards building a stone bridge over the Calder at Fenysford, near Whalley, voluntary contributions having been made in aid, and its preamble sets forth that the river is "very often (especially in the winter season) soe great that there is no passage for man or horse, and many attempting at such times to passe have been drouned, and almost daylie some persons are there putt in danger of their lives, and have their loades and carriages drowned and lost, and that the said ford is of late years so worne and groune so rocky that in short time it is thought will become altogether impassable, being almost impossible to be amended by the charge and labour of man."

We need not then be surprised that even in very remote times the provision and maintenance of bridges was regarded as one of the most important social duties.

So early as the beginning of the seventh century we find the repair of bridges placed among the *trinoda necessitas*, the three burdens of such paramount necessity that even the owners of boc land, privileged from all else, were not exempt from them. In the ancient penitential of St. Dunstan the building of bridges is included amongst the duties of charity which the rich owe to the poor (*Transactions*, v. 175). Although we never meet in England with traces of the Bridge Friars or Pontifex Brothers, who in France built bridges, and set up establishments provided with boats on the shores of streams, works of this kind were encouraged here by the grant of indulgences to those who helped by their gifts or by their bodily labour in the repair of bridges. There were also gilds who undertook this duty, the members of the fraternity taking it in turns to attend daily to keep the bridges clean. Sometimes, as at Bow, an endowment was created, though not always was the income properly administered. Sometimes a toll was imposed under a grant made by the king. The right of imposing this toll was called *brudtholl* or *pontage*. Local examples of it we shall find presently. Sometimes voluntary offerings were collected by a priest, who occupied a little chapel on the bridge, where the faithful could halt for a few moments for giving of thanks, and where mass was said at dawn. All those various means, however, proved in many cases ineffectual to secure the proper repair of the bridge. Endowments were misappropriated, the recipients of offerings came to consider receiving as their only duty, and sometimes the funds, even when honestly administered, proved insufficient for the purpose, and so not infrequently the bridge fell into ruin.

Many of the old bridges were built with triangular recesses for the safety of passengers, a very necessary

precaution when the way was so narrow as to barely allow room for a cart. The improvements of the last hundred years have resulted in the removal of many of those old bridges to give place to modern ones, not so picturesque, perhaps, but certainly more spacious and more safe. In Lancashire the number of additional bridges erected since the middle of the seventeenth century must be very great. There was previously a great deficiency. A general Act passed in 1670 makes special provision for Lancashire and Cheshire. It recites that in these counties there are many and sundry great and deep rivers, which run cross and through the common and public highways and roads, which many times cannot be passed over without hazard and loss of the lives and goods of the inhabitants and travellers for want of convenient, good, and sufficient bridges. The justices were accordingly empowered, during the next ten years only, to rebuild new bridges, and to repair or rebuild such as were demolished in the late war. From this latter it would seem that some, at any rate, of the demolished bridges had not up to then been rebuilt.

In time of war fords and bridges have played a great part, as the possession of them has been naturally of great importance. From the earliest times—since Ehud and his followers took the fords of Jordan towards Moab, and suffered not a man to pass over (*Judges* iii. 28); since the Gileadites secured the passages of Jordan in their contest with the Ephraimites (*Judges* xii. 5); and since Horatius kept the bridge at Rome—the possession of fords and bridges has been the key to the defence of many a city and province, for

> If they once may win the bridge,
> What hope to save the town?

Where the erection of a bridge was impracticable, we often find a ferry in existence. The word "ferry" may mean either the boat used for conveying passengers across the river, or the place where the boats pass over, or the legal right to maintain such a boat and levy tolls for its use. Such a right conferred by charter from the sovereign was exclusive, and conferred a monopoly within the prescribed limits, and therefore tended to become a very valuable possession. It was often granted by the king with the intention of conferring a royal favour on the grantee. Sometimes this is broadly stated, though more often one is left to read it between the lines, expressing the benefit which is being conferred on the people generally in providing the means of passage. The grant is sometimes expressed to be made "for the love of God." And, indeed, the right did imply a corresponding duty—that of keeping up a boat which the public were entitled to use at reasonable times on payment of reasonable tolls. Sometimes the mere possession of lands on both sides of a stream without any charter enabled a private owner to stipulate for a toll or rent for the right of passage.

In dealing with the local fords, ferries, and bridges, I propose to follow the principal rivers from their mouths upwards, noting by the way what information I have been able to collect from various sources. These sources I need not now stop to indicate, except in one case. In 1781 an Enumeration of all the Public Bridges in the Hundred of Salford was made for the information of the Justices by Mr. Edmond Holme, the Bridgemaster, and to this I am indebted for many of the particulars given below.

THE MERSEY.

We begin then with the Mersey at Liverpool. Here there is, of course, no question of either ford or bridge, but the ferry is not lacking, and, as the right to it was litigated between the years 1837 and 1840, there is abundant information about it in the record of the action (Pim *v.* Curell) in the sixth volume of Meeson and Welsby's Reports at page 234. Here we learn from Letters Patent, dated 1318, that there was previously existing a common passage from the vill of Liverpool to the priory of Birkenhead, over the arm of the sea there, and that the men intending to pass over had hitherto been obliged to turn aside to the priory because there was not any inn for their entertainment, whereby the priory was burdened beyond its means by the exercise of the necessary hospitality. The king (Edward II.), therefore, granted to the prior and convent his royal licence to erect there an inn or house of entertainment for the benefit of the passengers. Those who like to find a close connection between the Church and the liquor interest, between Beer and Bible, will perhaps think they have here a very early example of it. Thirteen years later (A.D. 1331) King Edward III. "willing," as the charter says, "to do the said Prior and Convent a more abundant favour and for the benefit of those wishing to pass over by water there" (notice the double motive—probably we are not wrong in concluding that the favour to the convent was the more potent reason for the charter) granted to the said prior and convent that they and their successors for ever might have the same passage across the said arm of the sea as well for men as for horses and all other things whatsoever, and that they might receive for that passage as reasonably might be

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Hale and Ince.

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Passing up the river we c
Here the river is or was forda
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trajectus from Ditton or Wi
municate with the Roman camp at Halton, but gives
no authority for its existence, and in *Roman Cheshire*
he makes no reference whatever to it. The earliest
authenticated reference to the crossing is in a charter of
the twelfth century, by which Richard de More granted

to his son W'goon two bovates of land in Roncover (Runcorn) and a toft and croft in Widnesse rendering a yearly rent to the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem and finding half the necessaries for the passage of the ship of Widnesse for ever for all who should pass over there in the love of God. The ferry it appears had previously been established by John Fitz Richard, whose death took place in 1190.* By another charter, in 1190, the grand prior of the English brotherhood of the Knights Hospitallers granted lands to Richard de la More in consideration of a rent and of his keeping in repair on the River Mersey at Runcorn the vessel which John, constable of Chester, for the love of God had formerly provided to carry across the stream those who desired it. Here again we have it assumed as a laudable and charitable thing to keep up the ferry boat, but the prior did not forget to stipulate that one-third part of the chattels of the grantee and his heirs in succession, at the death of each, was to go to the brotherhood for the good of his soul. In connection with this ferry there is a romantic story of "Will the Ferryman," preserved by an old ballad, which appeared in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for June, 1758, and is given in Nickson's *History of Runcorn*, pp. 142 and 143.

A little higher up the river we come to "Fiddler's Ferry," in Penketh, which is probably ancient. Three miles higher up we reach Warrington, where we find the first regular ford and the first bridge, two circumstances which have made the site one of great importance for military purposes. According to Mr. W. A. Hulton, the very name of the place indicates a ford. Speaking of the Lancashire district, in his *Penwortham Priory* (Chet.

* Beamont's *Halton*, pp. 15, 16, 88; Nickson's *Runcorn*, pp. 136, 144.

Soc., vol. xxx.), he says: "Three important rivers flowing from east to west intersect it and empty themselves into the Irish Sea. At the precise point on each of those rivers, where the first available ford is found, a local name is discovered into the composition of which the term 'werid' enters. Two of these places still retain the word with a Saxon suffix, denoting the progress of civilisation. And the Britannico-Saxon names of Werid-ton and Pen-werid-ham have come down to our days slightly changed into Warrington and Penwortham. While Caer-werid, or the camp of the ford on the Lune, suffered but a slight change in the hands of its Norman possessors when it was translated into the camp of the Lune and became Lancaster." In a footnote Mr. Hulton reminds us that the name Caer Weridd is found in Camden.

During the Roman occupation and through all the Saxon period the passage at Warrington was effected by a ford, which, according to Mr. Beamont, entered the river at a point opposite Wash Lane in Latchford.*

"This pass over the Mersey," says Whitaker,† "was at the extremity of some flat pastures that are called Broad Howley, and led directly into the village, which from it is denominated Latchford. It was formed by a shallow of gravel on a bed of marle, was about thirty yards in width, and had frequently in a dry summer not more than two feet of water upon it." The current of opinion, however, at the present day leans to the belief that the Roman road crossed close by the existing bridge. At the latter end of the twelfth century a ferry boat was probably established. About 1195 Randle Blundeville by charter granted the

* Beamont, *Annals of the Lords of Warrington*, p. 364.
† *Hist. Manchester*, vol. i., pp. 154, 211.

right of passage over the river between Thelwall and Runcorn to Hugh Boydel. The ancient ford with its boat continued for some time to be the only mode of passage, but before 1305 a bridge had been built near the site of the present one, for it is mentioned in several charters of 1305, 1308, and 1310.* It was probably constructed of wood, but before 1364 it had perished. Royal authority to rebuild was then given to Sir John Boteler, the lord of the manor, and others associated with him who were willing to give time and money for such a work, and the old bridge was then probably replaced by a more substantial structure of stone (Rymer's *Fœdera*, iii., 740, 741). Another Boteler, who died in 1420, left by his will twenty marks expressly for the repair of the bridge of Warrington. In 1453, at the instance probably of another Boteler, an indulgence was granted to all Christian people who should contribute, bequeath, or assign some part of their goods, or extend a helping hand toward the great and costly work of building and erecting anew at Warrington the bridge over the great and rapid water commonly called the Merce, "which flows in a swift course to and from the sea," and which both for the inhabitants and strangers who had occasion to travel that way was troublesome and dangerous to cross.† In 1479, when the bridge once more needed repair, letters of indulgence to all who would contribute were again issued.‡ The erection of the new substantial stone bridge, on the occasion of King Henry VII.'s visit to Lancashire in 1495, is a well known fact in the history of the county. After Preston battle, in 1648, the Duke of Hamilton's defeated army possessed the bridge, and on Cromwell's arrival desired some capitu-

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* Beamont, 365, 133. † *Ibid*, 278. ‡ *Ibid*, 336.

lation. "To which," says Cromwell (Letter lxiv., Carlyle), "I yielded. Considering the strength of the pass, and that I could not go over the river within 10 miles of Warrington with the army, I gave him these terms," &c.

In 1745, in the expectation of the Jacobite prince coming this way, the two middle arches were destroyed. Beppy Byrom in her "Journal," under date November 25th, says: "This day there are men pulling up Warrington Bridge." The contract for the rebuilding in 1746 is referred to by Mr. Earwaker in *Transactions*, v. 261. It included the erection of a watchhouse and dungeon on the bridge. The old bridge was finally pulled down in 1816.*

Above Warrington we come next to Thelwall, which was, as we have seen, the limit of the right of passage granted to Hugh Boydel, *c.* 1195.

The late Mr. Thompson Watkin, in his *Roman Lancashire*, made the Roman road from Manchester to Wilderspool cross the Mersey somewhere near Lymm, and promised to treat more of it in *Roman Cheshire*, which, however, for some reason he did not do. The map of the Mersey and Irwell, made in 1721 for the intended navigation, shows "a Ford" near Rixton Hall, which perhaps was used for the purpose.

The next crossing is at Hollin's Ferry, near Warbur-

* The accompanying view of "Warrington Bridge in 1746" is from a drawing found among the papers of the late Dr. Kendrick, and now in the Warrington Museum. The drawing cannot be older than about 1850, and is believed to be largely conjectural. The artist no doubt had before him at the time the poor, but apparently faithful, oil sketch from nature, also in the Warrington Museum, which is reproduced in the smaller view "A," and which represents the bridge at the beginning of this century. From this he borrowed certain details, notably the row of poplar trees, which, transferred from their proper position on the right bank of the river, appear to be growing out of the bridge parapet. The point of view and the curve of the arches are, it will be observed, nearly identical in the two pictures.—G. H. R.

WARRINGTON BRIDGE.

A.D. 1746.

ton, formerly called Hollinfare, indicating a passage, which probably existed from very early times. Here the Duke of Cumberland crossed when pursuing the young Pretender's forces in 1745. The ferry and boat had been previously damaged or destroyed, as appears by the order for repair of the Mersey and Irwell bridges and ferries made in 1746 (Beamont's *Annals of the Lords of Warrington*, 1587-1833, p. 112). In 1823 the old ferry float was renewed. The ferry was superseded in 1863 by the Rixton Bridge, which itself will soon be superseded, owing to the filling up of the old river course.

A little higher up were three crossings communicating with Flixton. Carrington Old Bridge, pulled down about 1840, must have been over two hundred years old, if it be true (as tradition states) that it was erected by a Lady Carrington to enable her tenants to attend Flixton Church, for the old hall passed from the Carringtons early in Elizabeth's reign. It was a footbridge only, and carts had to pass by the ford. In the order for repair of bridges in 1746 it is referred to as a wooden bridge. Another ford was opposite Flixton Church, and the third near Shaw Hall. I am indebted to our member Miss Leech, who has made a long study of these and kindred matters, for the remark that the fords were often found near the ancient churches, which were in most places erected by the side of rivers. By means of them, and the ways in connection with them, access could be obtained from one church to another without using the military roads. And after the establishment of the turnpike system the avoiding of toll would furnish another motive for using these minor highways instead of the great roads. The Flixton ford is called in a seventeenth century deed "The Stone Ford." A field near, belonging to the church, was called before its purchase by the

railway company "The Parson's Stamford." Several old tracks leading from this ford in various directions have been traced.

Near Hillam Farm was another crossing. Miss Leech was for a long time puzzled to understand the fact, disclosed by the church registers, that the youths of Ashton-on-Mersey often wedded the lasses of Urmston, and *vice versâ*, there being no apparent passage for a few miles in either direction. But love we know laughs at difficulties of this kind, and enquiries amongst the people brought to light the former existence of this ford.

Our next crossing brings us to a military highway, the first since Warrington, viz., the Roman road from Manchester to Kinderton and Chester. The name "Cross Ford" is still retained in the name of the bridge, and the adjacent village is Stretford. But in the fourteenth century we find the name "Crossferry" in an order given by the Black Prince as Earl of Chester, in regard to the unauthorised assumption of a right of passage across the Mersey between this point and Runcorn.* When the bridge was erected does not appear. Leland, writing in 1538, says: "I rode over Mersey water by a great bridge of Tymbre, caullid Crosford Bridge." In 1577 the timber bridge was taken down and replaced by the county with a stone edifice at a cost of £240, towards which sum the inhabitants of the town of Manchester of their benevolence bestowed £40.† In 1745 the bridge appears to have been pulled down, wholly or partially, to retard the progress of Prince Charles, who announced in his proclamation from Manchester, that he had given orders for the repair of this one particularly, though he did not propose to make

* Ormerod, *History of Cheshire*, i. 447. † Hollinworth, *Mancuniensis*.

use of it himself, and added with a spice of sarcasm, that if the forces with General Wade were coming this road, they might have the benefit of it. Before the prince returned to Manchester the bridge had again suffered. The Constable's accounts contain an item of disbursement, on December 7th, for sundry charges of pulling up Crosford Bridge to retard the retreat of the rebels. In the order for repair of bridges it is described as of stone. In 1781 it is described as a "very firm, good bridge."*

Passing by Jackson's Boat, where there is now a bridge, the successor of a wooden one erected in 1816, and a little below which a ford is stated to have formerly existed, we reach Barlow Ford, an obsolete and almost forgotten passage.† It was in use in 1745, as we find one of Prince Charlie's officers demanding a horse and a man to take him over it, and so to Altrincham.‡ Mr. Worthington, the steward at Wythenshawe, who exhibited to our Society in 1889 a document relating to the attachment of a weir at Barlow in the fifteenth century, traces ancient ways diverging in three different directions from the ford on the Cheshire side.§ Fields close by bore, in 1641, the names, "Foard Field" and "Boat heys," from which latter it would appear that there was an ancient ferry here.

Passing another ford at the bend of the river, near where Christ Church now stands—of which there is now no trace, but which was used within living memory, not as a highway, but merely by the tenants of the Lum Farm to obtain access to some of their lands on the other side of the river—we reach Northenden Ferry. This ferry has been in existence from time immemorial. In

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* Holme, No. 83.
† *City News*, N. & Q., v. 69.
‡ *L. & C. Ant. Soc. Trans.*, vii. 155.
§ *Man. City News*, Nov., 1888.

1539 the then Tatton of Wythenshawe acquired the right to it by purchasing certain land from Sir Ralph Longford for £6. 13s. 4d.

Not far from this ferry is Didsbury, or Northenden ford, of which particulars were given in the *Manchester City News* in November, 1888. Here, in 1490 or 1491, a disaster took place. William Harrington, of West Leigh, and his wife—a daughter of the house of Trafford—were drowned while crossing the ford on horseback on the day of their marriage.

Further up again we reach Gatley Ford, connected with Millgate Lane, Didsbury. This was once, no doubt, on a great highway from Manchester into Cheshire until the erection of Cheadle Bridge and the formation of the turnpike road diverted the traffic. About 1863 the making of the two railways on the Cheshire side of the river blocked the approach, and since that time it has been disused. Here, as at Urmston, the river proved no obstacle to an impetuous lover, and the Squire of Gatley, some seventy years ago, regularly crossed to the trysting place on the Didsbury side. At Cheadle there appears to have been a ferry, as "Cheadle Boat" is referred to in 1673 and again in 1744.* Cheadle Ford is the one by which Prince Charlie is said to have crossed the river on the 1st December, 1745,† and for which a guide was demanded, in language more forcible than polite, as set forth in our *Transactions*, vii. 155. And it was here that occurred the pathetic incident of the aged lady, who, as a child, had seen the restoration of Charles II., straining her dim eyes to gaze on the features of the prince, and press his hand to her shrivelled lips.

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* Moss, *Diddesbury*, 61, 62.
† Byrom "Journals," Cheth. Soc., 394.

According to Heginbotham's *Stockport*, a bridge here was broken down to intercept the prince's retreat, and his army constructed a temporary bridge by lashing together a number of poplar trees. The contemporary accounts, however, do not speak of a pre-existing bridge but of "Cheadle Ford," and I think it likely that no permanent bridge was erected till afterwards. One of the objects of the Act of Parliament passed in 1752 for turnpiking the road from Didsbury to Wilmslow was for the erecting of a bridge over the river Mersey, as if no bridge previously existed there. A party, says Beppy Byrom, "went to Cheadle Ford . . . with a design to cut it up . . . but by nine o'clock they returned from their fruitless expedition." This was on the 8th December, 1745—the day the prince arrived back from Derby. In 1756 the bridge then in existence fell, killing one man and wounding another.* It was in due time rebuilt.

At Stockport, formerly "Stopford," we again arrive at one of the great military highways. The Roman road from Manchester to Buxton crossed the river by a ford about sixty yards below the junction of the Tame with the Mersey.† When the ford was first superseded by a bridge is not known. The earliest known reference to the bridge is in 1372, when a licence was granted by the Bishop of Lichfield to Thomas, son of Henry of Manchester, chaplain, that he might celebrate divine service in an oratory within his hermitage, built at the end of the bridge of Stockport. The bridge in existence at the beginning of the eighteenth century was blown down in 1745 to arrest the progress of the rebels, and was afterwards rebuilt.‡

* Harrop's *Manchester Mercury*, July 12th, 1756.
† Heginbotham's *Stockport*, i., p. 13.
‡ *Ibid*, ii. 428.

Above Stockport the Mersey ceases to be a Lancashire river, but in its stead we will follow the Tame, which now becomes the county boundary. Immediately above the confluence there was a ford, respecting the access to which a trial took place in the Duchy Court of Lancaster in the reign of Philip and Mary; the result is not stated. It appears that at that time the road from Brinnington into Stockport must have been exceedingly difficult, in consequence of the rugged rocky banks of the river. In 1496 grants were made to the Squire of Portwood of an attachment for a bridge across the Mersey, and of a landing place with his boat for his whole household to church and market. In return for the latter the squire was to pay fourpence per annum, and the grantor was to be free to the bull and boar at Portwood.* On the Tame the chief crossings would be between Denton and Hyde, at Dukinfield, and at Stalybridge. Hamnett Ford, apparently situated above Hyde, is referred to in the registers of the Nonconformist Chapel of Dukinfield, which state that in 1701 Abigail Hyde fell off from behind her husband into the river, and was carried down the water and died, being taken up next morning beneath Hyde mill weir. Dukinfield old bridge is well shown in the view of "Ashton in 1777," at page 255 of *Transactions*, vol. vii.

Retracing our steps to the confluence of the Mersey and Irwell we proceed up the latter river, and soon arrive at Irlam Ferry, on the highway from Flixton. This is, no doubt, an ancient ferry, as communication must always have been necessary between Irlam and Flixton. It is shown as "Erlom Ferry" in the map of 1712, and is named in the Order for repair of bridges and

* Heginbotham's *Stockport*, ii. 154.

ferries in 1746. Some distance higher up is Holmes Bridge, named in the same map, and referred to in the same Order as a wooden bridge, and also shown in Morden's Map of Lancashire (1704) as situate on a road from Irlam to Flixton and Manchester.

At Barton there was a "boat" in 1586 and 1590.* The bridge must have been erected at a later date. It was existing in 1712, as it is shown on the map of that date, and the Order for repair of bridges in 1746 describes it as a stone bridge. Beppy Byrom speaks of it having been pulled up in 1745. Trafford (where there was no bridge until our own day) speaks for itself. Entering Manchester, we come to Woden's Ford, described by Barritt as a paved causeway across the river Irwell, situate on the Roman road from Manchester to Wigan. Some notes on this ford, by Mr. Earwaker, will be found in our *Transactions*, vol. v., p. 249.

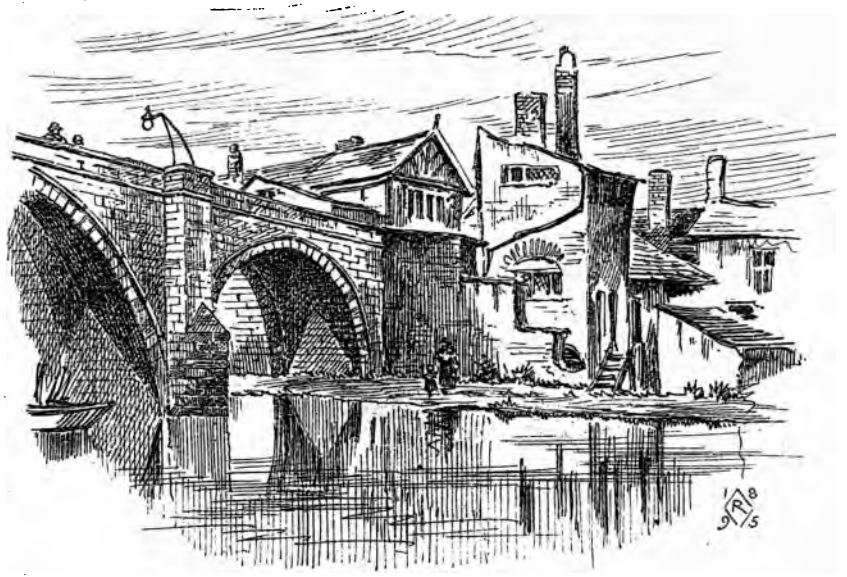
We next reach the ford which has given its name to Manchester's sister borough. Many conjectures have been made as to the meaning of the first syllable in the word "Salford," from that which attributes it to a certain ancient dame of the name of Sal to the one favoured, provisionally, by Dr. J. A. H. Murray, of Oxford (whose authority is of the greatest), according to which it is from Salh, a willow. This is, however, only a likely conjecture, and it is still open to any one who can do so to discover a better derivation. The name, as we shall find, occurs again and again in Lancashire. Whatever the meaning, the fact is clear that the ford must have been a very ancient one, since it has given the name to both town and hundred. Of the bridge which ultimately superseded it and for centuries played a conspicuous part

* *Shuttleworth Accounts*, p. 434.

in Manchester life, notably during the siege of 1642, a pleasant recollection is left to us from the Jubilee Exhibition of 1887, in the Old Manchester and Salford section of which it was represented. (See *Transactions*, v., p. 165.) The bridge was probably constructed about 1365 or 1368, in which latter year Thomas del Bothe made his will, leaving to the bridge at Salford £30, to be paid in the next three years by equal portions. The chapel founded by him stood upon one of the piers of the bridge. Leland says, "There be divers stone bridges in the toune, but the best of III arches is over Irwel. This bridge dividith Manchestre from Salford. . . . On this bridg is a praty litle chapel."

The bridge was described by Holme, in 1781, as "a firm commodious bridge." He adds that it had been twice widened; the first time about fifty years since (*i.e.*, about 1730) on the south side, and on the north in 1779. The accompanying view, reproduced by Mr. Rowbotham from a drawing made about the beginning of this century, shows very clearly the later addition. The chapel, it will be remembered, was converted into a dungeon, and ultimately the whole bridge was pulled down in 1837, and replaced by the present more commodious one, which was opened for traffic as Victoria Bridge on the second anniversary of Her Majesty's accession. A careful inspection of the arches of the old bridge from below, made at the time it was pulled down, showed that the original structure could not have been more than from thirteen to fourteen feet in extreme width, so that the roadway could not have been more than twelve feet wide.

Above Manchester we pass successively Broughton Ford, and the bridges at Agecroft, Ringley, Prestolee, and Radcliffe, each on an ancient line of communication, and probably preceded by a ford. Radcliffe is the point where



SALFORD BRIDGE.

AGECROFT BRIDGE.

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RINGLEY BRIDGE.

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the Roman road from Manchester to Ribchester crossed the river. Next above it comes Bury, at which point a bridge is shown in Saxton's Map of Lancashire (*c.* 1600). In the Kenyon Papers, at p. 73, is a letter dated 1664, requesting Roger Kenyon to send an order for the renewing of Bury Bridge "as the last floods have made wider the breach." In 1781, Holme says, "it consists of 3 Gothic arches." "Great inconveniences," he adds, "arise from the narrowness of the bridge, the number of carriages of all kinds passing and repassing having greatly increased in the space of a few years." Above Bury, the river becomes fordable almost anywhere.

For the rest of the river passages in the Mersey and Irwell watershed a brief enumeration must suffice. They include:—

OVER THE MEDLOCK.—Knot Mill Bridge, superseding a ford on the Roman road, Manchester to Kinderton. London Road Bridge, built, according to Holme, about 1740, superseding a ford originally on the Roman road, Manchester to Buxton. Ancoats Bridge, on the road to Ashton. It was existing in 1709, being referred to in the Dukinfield Chapel registers for that year. Bradford: As this is the name of the township, the ford must be very ancient. No bridge is named in the Enumeration of 1781. Clayton Bridge, on an ancient highway, Rochdale to Stockport.

OVER THE IRK.—Hunt's Bank Bridge: Here was the crossing of the Roman road, Manchester to Ribchester. A bridge existed in 1473 (see *Transactions*, iii. 109). Scotland Bridge, on the old road to Rochdale. This or the preceding bridge is referred to by Leland. Smith Bridge, on the ancient highway, Rochdale to Stockport.

OVER HANGING DITCH.—The Hanging Bridge described in *Transactions*, viii., p. 97.

OVER THE ROACH.—Blackford, on the old road between Manchester and Bury. The old Blackford Bridge, though superseded by the newer one, is still standing, and is well shown in the accompanying drawing by Mr. Rowbotham. It was described in 1781 as of two arches and in good repair. Heap Bridge, on the road from Bury to Rochdale, was rebuilt in 1776 and 1777.

OVER SUDDEN BROOK.—Sudden Bridge, on the road from Manchester to Rochdale. It is mentioned by Ogilby (1675). Close by was Smithiford, also referred to by him.

OVER BRADSHAW BROOK.—Thicketford or Hicitford, on the road, Bolton to Haslingden. The bridge was built in or about 1776 (Holme, No. 38). Pack Saddle Bridge, Turton.

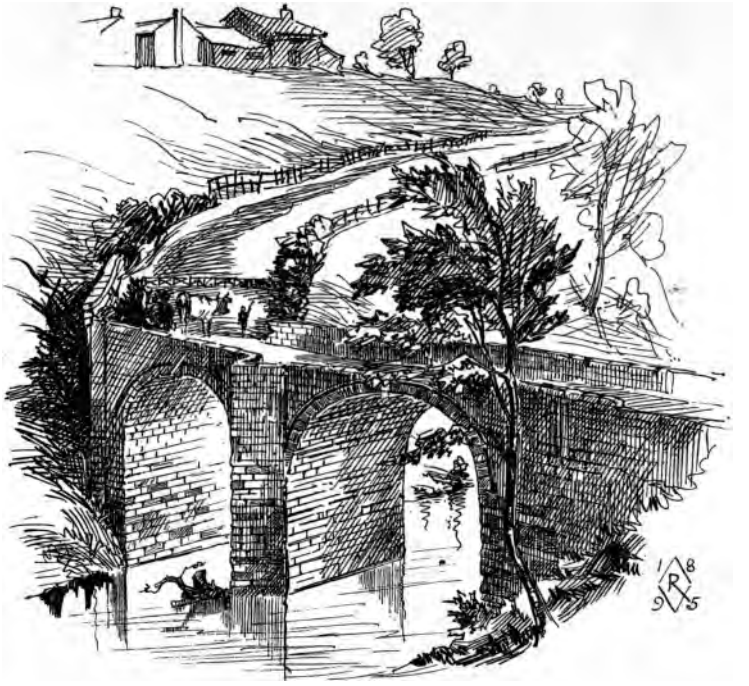
OVER MIDDLE BROOK.—Claytonford, near Bolton, on the road to Preston. There was a bridge existing in 1781.

OVER RUSHFORD BROOK. — Rushford, on the road (Roman), Manchester to Buxton. The bridge was existing in 1781.

OVER LONGFORD BROOK.—Longford: The bridge was existing in 1781. It is to be distinguished from Longford Bridge across the canal.

OVER TURNER BROOK OR TONGE RIVER.—Turner Bridge, on the road from Bolton to Blackburn, had beside it, in 1781, a good ford. As often happened, the bridge had been built out of line with the road to preserve the ford, which already occupied the direct line (Holme, No. 77).

OVER GLAZEBROOK.—Cadishead Bridge, on the road, Manchester to Warrington. Built 1776 (Holme, No. 16), prior to which there must have been a ford. Woolden: The passage here was held by the Earl of Derby after



BLACKFORD BRIDGE,

OVER THE RIVER ROACH, NEAR WHITEFIELD.

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the siege of Manchester, but he was driven thence by the Parliamentarians.*

OVER SANKEY BROOK.—Penkford Bridge, on the road, Bolton to St. Helens.

OVER RAINFORD BROOK.—Rainford.

THE DOUGLAS.

The Douglas debouches into the estuary of the Ribble near Hesketh Bank, midway between Southport and Preston. At its mouth there is a road across the sands at low water, with a ford crossing the then narrow channel. There is also for use at high water the Longton Ferry, filling up the needed link in the route from Preston to Hesketh Bank and along the coast. A little higher up is "Johnson's Ferry," from Becconsall Marsh to Marsh Houses. Both these ferries are probably ancient. Between Tarleton and Bretherton was an ancient ferry which, at the beginning of the eighteenth century, belonged to Mr. Thomas Fleetwood, of Bank Hall, who erected a "very fair and large stone bridge." When the Douglas Navigation Act was passed, in 1720, it was provided that the promoters should either continue the bridge or, if they pulled it down, erect a new one equally good and substantial. In connection with this ferry a token was issued, on the obverse of which appeared "TARLETON . TOWNE . HALPENIES," a boat, and "1669."†

Above Tarleton is the Strand Bridge, close by which is Barrowford House, the name pointing to the existence of an ancient ford. A little higher up we have Rufford,

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* Croston's Baines's *Lancashire*, iii. 265.

† N. Heywood, *Corporation and other Tokens issued in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries.*

which in 1650 was recommended by the Parliamentary Commissioners to be made into a distinct parish "in respect the waters lying betwixt the said towne of Rufford and the p'ishe of Croston are for the most p'te all the winter tyme not passable." At Wigan the river was crossed by the Roman road from Warrington to Walton-le-Dale, and a little higher up we have Horrocksford Bridge. Further up we have Grimeford Bridge and Andertonford Bridge or Bridges (there being another of the same name on the Middle Brook).

The chief tributaries of the Douglas are the Lostock and the Yarrow, which take a parallel course. Each crosses the Roman road between Wigan and Walton, the former at Bamber Bridge, the latter at Pincock Bridge, which Ogilby, writing in 1675, mentions in his *Britannia*. Celia Fiennes, in her ride from Wigan to Preston, some twenty years or so later, notices the great height of the arches necessitated by the swelling of the brooks after great rains (see *Transactions*, ix. 112), but adds, "They are but narrow bridges, for foot or horse." "I passed by," she says, "at least half a dozen of those high single arches, besides several great stone bridges of four or six arches, which are very high also, over their greatest rivers."

On the Lostock there is also a Hipping Stones Bridge, near Leyland. On the Tawd, another tributary, is Hollow Ford, with a footbridge on a lane leading from Newburgh to Burscough. On the Smithy Brook is another ford, near Goose Green, Wigan.

The Ribble.

Unlike the Mersey, the Ribble is fordable within sight of the sea. From the Naze to Hesketh Bank is the over-sands route, formerly much used. (See *Transactions*,

ix. 130.) But upon the river, as distinguished from the estuary, Penwortham claims to be the first ford. Allusion has already been made to the supposed derivation of the name from "Werid." In Kuerden's time, two centuries ago, there was both ford and ferry. In his MS., he describes the way from Preston to the ford, or when the river was not fordable to the "Key,"* "where divers boats are ready as occasion may require to waft them over to the other side." There were, it appears, two fords, the upper and the lower. In 1750, an Act was passed for the building of a bridge. The preamble states that a bridge is desirable, "inasmuch as the fords are by reason of the great freshes and tides, which have of late years happened therein, so much worn and become so deep and founderous that his Majesty's subjects even at low water, especially in the winter season, cannot pass the same on horseback, or with carts and carriages, without imminent danger." It further states that several persons had "lost their lives in endeavouring to pass the said river," and that although the place of fording had been changed, still from the force of the current and the nature of the soil, the new fords had become as difficult and founderous as the previous ones; indeed, it appeared highly probable that the passage of the river would shortly be entirely lost and rendered impracticable. Power was accordingly given to erect a bridge and levy tolls, also to purchase the right of ferry from the owners of it. The bridge was erected and completed in 1755. In September of the following year, one of the piers of the centre arch gave way, and shortly afterwards five other arches fell. The bridge was reconstructed after another Act had been obtained in 1757.

* Hardwick's *History of Preston*, p. 211.

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RINGLEY BRIDGE.

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OVER HANGING DITCH.—The Hanging Bridge described in *Transactions*, viii., p. 97.

Of the tributaries of the river the principal are the Hodder and the Calder. At the mouth of the HODDER was a ford, which is, I understand, still occasionally used. Above it is the Lower Bridge, on the road from Mitton to Stonyhurst. The old bridge (now superseded by the newer one, about thirty yards higher up) was erected in 1561 by Sir Richard Sherburn. An indenture by which Roger Crosley, mason, contracted for the mason work for £70 still exists. For a long time previously there would appear to have been a bridge, probably of wood, and liable to be swept away when, in the old phrase, "Hodder came down." The impetuosity of the river and the frequent breaking of the bridge are spoken of in a document dated 1329 (see "Centenary Record of Stonyhurst College"). At this bridge, on the 16th August, 1648, Cromwell arrived with his army from Skipton, and held a council of war whether to cross or not. Having decided to do so, he marched next day to Preston, where he fought the battle already referred to. The scene at the bridge has formed the subject of a painting by Charles Cattermole.

The "Higger Brig," as the people about call the Higher Hodder Bridge, is on the road from Clitheroe by Edisford. Doeford Bridge, on the road from Chipping, tells in its very name the story of the successive ford and bridge.

The CALDER has several crossings. Not far above its confluence with the Ribble are Potter's Ford and Chew Mill Ford, respectively on the Roman roads from Ribchester to near Skipton and to Portfield.* Above Whalley was Fenysford, on the road to Bury and Manchester, to which allusion has already been made. The Order of

* Watkin's *Roman Lancashire*, p. 78.

OLD HODDER BRIDGE.

From a Photo.

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Sessions, in 1632, states that over this ford "when the water is little there is commonly two or three hundred lowden horses every day pass over, besides great number of other passengers."

On smaller tributaries of the Ribble we have:—

On the BRUN: Salford Bridge in Burnley, and Salterford Bridge, near Worsthorn.

On MEARLEY or PENDLETON BROOK, just outside Clitheroe, another Salford Bridge.

On PENDLE WATER: Reedyford Bridge.

On BARROWFORD BECK: Barrowford Bridge.

On SAVILE BROOK: Cowford Bridge.

On PENDLETON BROOK, where the Roman road from Ribchester crosses a ford, a fragment of the road was laid open on the brink of the brook.*

On the DARWEN, the bridge at Walton-le-Dale has been already alluded to. It is mentioned by Cromwell, who, after beating the enemy from Ribble Bridge, following them, possessed the "Bridge over Darwen" also.

The Wyre, the Lune, and the remaining rivers of Lancashire, I must leave to be dealt with on another occasion.

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* *Roman Lancashire*, 78.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE OPENING OF A LARGE TUMULUS NEAR STONYHURST, LANCASHIRE.

BY THE REV. J. R. LUCK, S.J.

THE beautiful vale of the Ribble is everywhere rich in memories of the past, but perhaps no part of it contains so many monuments of ancient times as that where the Ribble, the Hodder, and the Calder converge to form one stream. Here venerable old churches, picturesque abbey ruins, and noble ancestral halls carry back the mind to mediæval times, while the Roman road, Roman forts, and the well-known Roman town of Ribchester recall the distant days when the legions of the imperial city first set foot upon its slopes. And there is that within the valley which will lead the imagination of the thoughtful visitor back to the misty dawn of history, when savage Britons hunted the wild beasts of the woods of Ribblesdale with flint-tipped weapons, or laboured with loyal devotion to raise some huge and lasting monument over the funeral pyre of a departed chief. To relate the discovery of such a monument in the Ribble valley is the object of this paper.

In the field which stands within the bend of the Ribble, where it goes out of its way to welcome the waters of the Calder, stand two huge mounds of earth. Both are covered with grass, and on the largest, which is also nearest the river, grow six very ancient hawthorns. These mounds have received a good deal of attention from the historians and antiquaries of our county. Now they have been thought to be mere natural hills of curious shape; now to be deposits made by the great glacier which once crept seawards along Ribblesdale. One learned antiquary thought they might have been formed by the confluence of the three rivers about their bases; while some of the rustics believed them to have been erected by their very provident predecessors as refuges for the sheep in time of flood. Hadn't they themselves seen the sheep huddle together atop of 'em in flood-time? The most generally received conjecture, however, was that they covered the remains of some of the chief men who fell in the fierce fight which took place in the neighbourhood between Eardwulf, King of Northumbria, and the rebel chief Wada, A.D. 798. The battle is thus recorded in the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle:* "A.D. 798. This year a severe battle was fought in the Northumbrian territory, during Lent, on the fourth day before the nones of April, at Whalley, wherein Alric, the son of Herbert, was slain, and many others with him." The account of the battle given by Simeon of Durham is more interesting, since it gives more precise information of the locality in which it was fought. "A.D. 798. A conspiracy having been organised by the murderers of Ethelred the king, Wada, the chief of that conspiracy, commenced a war against Eardwulf, and fought a battle at a place called by the English Billangahoh, near Walalega, and, after many had fallen on both sides,

Wada and his army were totally routed." Traces of the name Billangahoh are still preserved in the names of the two contiguous townships, Billington and Langho. Several writers on the subject have thought that this battle raged fiercest at the old and now unused ford, known as Bullasey Ford, about half a mile below the mounds of which I have spoken. This theory is supported by the fact that a tumulus existed on the south bank of the river near this ford until the year 1836. Canon Raines relates its removal in the following words: "In the year 1836, as Thomas Hubbersty, the farmer, of Brockhall, was removing a large mound of earth in Brockhall Eases, about five hundred yards from the bank of the Ribble, on the left of the road leading from the house, he discovered a kist-vaen, formed of rude stones, containing some human bones and the rusty remains of some spear-heads of iron. The whole crumbled to dust on exposure to the air. Tradition has uniformly recorded that a battle was fought about Langho, Elker, and Buckfoot, near the Ribble, and this tumulus was opened within two hundred yards of a ford of the Ribble (now called Bullasey-ford), one of the very few points for miles where that river could be crossed. The late Dr. Whitaker repeatedly, but in vain, searched for remains of this battle, as he appears to have erroneously concluded that the scene of it was higher up the river, near Hacking Hall, at the junction of the Calder and the Ribble" (*Notitia Cestriensis*, pt. 2, p. 286). The "five hundred yards" is evidently a mistake. The Canon probably wrote "one hundred yards," which would be nearly correct. The ford was below the site of the mound, not above, as shown by Hardwick in his *Ancient Battlefields in Lancashire*, p. 130. Dr. Whitaker was led to think the scene of the battle to be near Hacking

Hall, because he supposed the large mound opposite to be the tomb of some chieftain slain in the battle. He says: "Of this great battle there are no remains, unless a large tumulus near Hacking Hall, and in the immediate vicinity of Langho, be supposed to cover the remains of Alric or some other chieftain among the slain" (*History of Whalley*, p. 30).

It is surprising to find that the learned historian was ignorant of the existence of the second large tumulus, which stood not two hundred yards from the one he mentions, and equally unconscious of the mound which stood, when he wrote, in Brockhall Eases, and which, though probably much smaller than either of the other two, must have been a prominent object in the landscape, standing as it did in the centre of an open field. He probably became better acquainted with this part of the country some years after he had written the above words, for Abram, speaking of the large mound opposite Hacking Hall, says: "Into this mound Whitaker had some excavation made about the year 1815, but he found the work heavy, and gave it up without reaching the centre of the tumulus, where the relics of sepulture might be expected to be found" (*History of Blackburn*, p. 28). The shallow basin and trench in the top of this mound have, we may suppose, borne the worthy doctor's footprints, in which the writer aspires to follow him, but not, he hopes, to tire so soon.

Such was the state of the case until last June (1894). Mr. Hardwick expressed the thoughts of many when he wrote: "Interesting results, both to geologists and archæologists, may, therefore, be anticipated from a thorough examination of the contents of these remarkable 'lowes' or 'mounds'; but, as some expense would be attendant thereupon, they may yet, for some time,

remain an interesting puzzle, both to the learned and to the unlearned in such matters" *(loc. cit.)*. It was thought that the golden obstacle to the solution of this "interesting puzzle" could be overcome, if the necessary permissions could be obtained. The writer waited upon Mr. W. W. Simpson, the owner of the estate upon which the mounds stand, and found him most willing to offer every facility for carrying out the work of investigation. He has since taken the warmest interest in the work, and has shown every kindness to those engaged in the excavations. For various reasons it was decided to attack the smaller of the two mounds first. It stands about three hundred yards from the nearest part of the Ribble, *i.e.*, the part directly opposite the mouth of the Calder. It is a bowl-shaped mound, rising gently from the field to a height of eleven feet at the centre; the diameter of the base, which is almost a perfect circle, being one hundred and fifteen feet. Near the top is a basin, too large to be accounted for by any "caving in," which is often thought to explain the hollows almost invariably found in British barrows. Mr. Simpson thought this hollow had been used at some past time as a rude limekiln, and we shall see that the spade unearthed evidence which seems to put this supposition beyond the region of doubt.

Following the practice of most of the greatest authorities on "barrow-digging," I resolved to cut a section out of the mound, extending from the base to the centre on the field level; but afterwards it seemed that our object might be attained by beginning from the bottom of the basin referred to above, and this course was adopted. The work was begun on June 18th, 1894. Immediately below the turf, near the highest part of the mound, we struck a large limb of an old tree root,

apparently *in situ*. This was encouraging, for it gave us hope that the mound had not been disturbed, at least in the centre, since this root first nourished a living tree, perhaps several hundred years ago. It was also interesting as evidence that one tree at least had at some time grown on this mound, for there was no exterior sign of a tree or bush, while on the large mound several very old "thorns" still flourish. The presence of trees on mounds goes some way to prove their sepulchral character, for they are so universally found on barrows, that some eminent archæologists have thought that the mound-builders planted trees there with some special intention or under some superstition. After digging through the rich mould which lay beneath the turf to a depth of three feet we came upon a cairn of large stones with very little soil between them. Most of them were water-worn limestones and sandstones, evidently from the river bed. The great majority were about the size of a man's head, though some were so huge that it took more than one man to lift them. A good number of stones were interspersed among the top soil, but here the work consisted of nothing but throwing out hundreds of these boulders. Among these stones was found the first proof of the sepulchral character of the mound; the composition of the mound as then seen precluded the idea of its being a natural hill or a glacial deposit. High among the stones, about five feet from the top of the mound, we discovered many pieces of a human skull, eight human teeth, and many broken human bones. Near these a most important discovery was made of a small flint knife or scraper. It is elliptical in shape, slightly over one and a half inches through the longer axis and three-quarters of an inch through the shorter. One side is flat, while the other has a ridge along its centre; the edge being

serrated by means of a number of fine chippings on the ridged side. That small flint weapon gave the Anglo-Saxon battle theory of the origin of the mound a blow which made it stagger, until later discoveries quite knocked it over. The hopes of fine Anglo-Saxon weapons of bronze and iron, which we had fondly cherished, now began to wane, but only to give place to keener hopes that the mound was about to reject the very respectable antiquity of eleven hundred years, and to lay claim to the Neolithic Period, far away in prehistoric ages, as the date of its erection. Nor were these hopes to be disappointed. Lower down among the stones, about five feet south of the centre, parts of another very thin skull were found. Judging from the teeth in the jawbones, Mr. Henderson Bulcock, dentist, of Clitheroe, states that it is the skull of a child not more than six or seven years of age. Many other broken bones, presumably belonging to this child, were lying in a mass near the skull.

On piercing the cairn, or rather, what proved to be a dome of stones, four feet thick, covering a heap of brown clay mixed with stones, we found what I believe to have been the chief interment, viz., the cremated remains of a human body. It was merely a mass of crushed bones lying on a thin layer of charcoal, bits of which were widely diffused through the underlying clay. Not a bone of this mass was whole, neither had the heat been great enough to reduce them to ashes; but they appear to have been broken up after the burning, and laid on some of the ashes of the wood fire. The cremation could not have taken place where the remains were found, for the charcoal found was not nearly sufficient to be the ashes of a fire large enough to burn a body, nor did the clay appear to have been burnt, but was quite ductile. We searched carefully for any urn or pottery which might

have been placed near the body, for urns are sometimes found with cremated remains, though not nearly so often as with unburnt bodies, but nothing of the kind was found. We felt sure that the mound had been raised as a monument to the honour of the person to whom this body had belonged, but to make certain that there was no grave deeper down, *i.e.*, below the original level of the soil, above which the body found was laid, we sank a well at the centre of the mound. After passing through a thin stratum of grey-blue clay, we reached a bed of fine yellow sand, which had evidently never been disturbed since it was first deposited there by the waters of the Ribble. We sank this well to a depth of thirteen and a half feet from the apex of the mound, when further search in that direction seemed hopeless.

We then began to think of carrying out our original plan of opening the mound from the verge to the centre, and in this design we were confirmed by advice kindly given by Professor Boyd Dawkins, M.A., F.R.S. In doing this our hope was to find some secondary or later interments, which are frequently discovered in the southern half of large tumuli. Beginning at the level of the field, and cutting through a layer of loosely packed stones, running parallel with the slope of the mound, we found what appeared to be another cairn of stones beneath that part of the mound which was highest, before it dipped into the basin described above. The outer stones, which seemed to have been chosen for their squareness, were almost as well fitted together as the curbstones of a footpath. On extending the trench through these stones, so as to enter the cutting already made from the bottom of the basin, and having made a side cutting where the "second cairn" occurred, we concluded that this was but part of the large central cairn of

stones, and that some stones had been removed from below the basin. It seemed, in fact, that these stones had been taken out to be burnt for lime, for beneath the turf of the basin we found large lumps of calcareous matter mixed with pieces of coal, which would seem to prove conclusively that this hollow had been used as a rude lime kiln, especially as many stones beneath the basin, and also the earth, showed signs of having been subjected to great heat. No sign of secondary interments was found in this part of the mound.

We now proceeded to enlarge the cutting at the centre of the barrow, in order to discover whether there were any other remains there. In this we were successful, for another skull was found among the stones, about four feet below the turf, and six feet east of the middle of the mound. It preserved its original form when discovered, but, despite the greatest care, fell to pieces when the earth was removed from around it. Part of the upper jaw is missing, but the lower jaw is complete, and Mr. Bulcock states that it belonged to a child, probably a boy of thirteen or fourteen years of age. The teeth, like all those found, are in a state of perfect preservation, the enamel being beautifully white and very hard, while not one shows the slightest sign of caries. Three or four burnt teeth were found among the bones of the cremated body. Another very interesting "find" in this part of the mound was that of the central part of a bone, four inches long, one and a quarter broad, and three quarters thick. Each end, on both sides, has been worn down by the sharpening of some metal instrument upon it. The stone is of some beautifully fine material, looking like pale green satin where it is split. Several fragments of pottery were also found among some soil which fell in during the heavy rains of July, and it is, therefore, im-

possible to state their exact position. One was the handle of a vessel made of fine well-burnt clay. Indentations made by the finger and thumb in fixing it to the vessel yet remain, no attempt having been made to level them out when the clay was soft. A piece of the side and bottom of a large flat pan is quite black in the middle, while the surfaces are brick coloured. The edge seems to have been crimped with the finger and thumb.

Besides the human bones, found in various parts of the barrow, were found some bones of animals. Among these, bones of the horse, ox (*bos longifrons*), sheep, goat, and various rodents have been found. Animal bones are often found in these barrows, and are believed to be the remains of funeral feasts partaken of on the mounds, but there were not enough bones of any one animal found together to warrant such a conclusion being drawn in this case. Many snail-shells were also found. Of course, the snails may have been clinging to the stones taken from the river or have worked their way down since; but I believe that we always found more shells about the human remains than in any other part of the mound. Snail-shells have been found so frequently in British barrows that Mr. Flower, F.G.S., thinks they may have been put in from some superstition, while Mr. Cunnington thought they were thrown in for food.

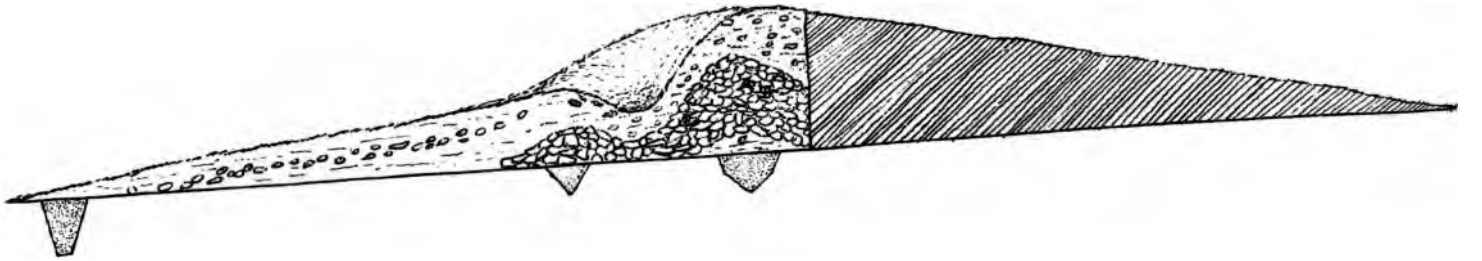
Among the great number of stones thrown out, many were full of fossils, mostly common encrinites. One was a huge mass of crinoidal stems, which stood out in high relief, the water of the river having washed away all foreign matter from between them. Dr. Henry Woodward, LL.D., F.R.S., who, with Mr. Tiddeman, F.G.S., was staying at Stonyhurst College, visited the mound, and asked for this interesting mass of fossils for the British Museum, whither it has been sent.

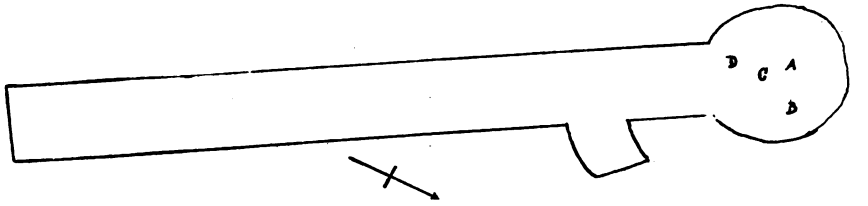
The cutting made was seventy-six feet long, six wide, and eleven deep at the centre of the barrow, where it widened into a well twelve feet across. It was south-east in direction.

In this account I have endeavoured to tell in a simple way just what we found, without trying to deduce any but the most obvious conclusions. Our labours have, I think, finally settled the origin of at least one of the two mounds, which have for so long been an "interesting puzzle."

Of all the theories formed to explain the nature of these mounds, the true one—that they were ancient British barrows—does not seem to have suggested itself to anyone. That such is the truth will hardly be doubted if the discoveries made in this mound be compared with those made by Sir R. Colt Hoare, Mr. Bateman, Canon Greenwell, and others. The body cremated and buried in the rudest fashion; the three skulls, possibly those of victims, &c., sacrificed at the funeral obsequies; the flint knife, the rude pottery, all tend to prove that the mound was a monument erected by some prehistoric people, to some person distinguished among them. The flint knife, though small, is like those attributed to the more advanced part of the Stone Age, known as the Neolithic Period; while the hone would seem to prove that metal instruments were in use when the mound was built. A cut on a small piece of wood, which was found among the remains of the fire, might be thought to be too clean to have been made by anything but a metal axe. This wood, which seems to be willow, is charred at one end.

It is almost certain that flint instruments remained in use after the introduction of bronze, for stone and bronze weapons have often been found together in the same





Section of a Mound, near Stonyhurst.

Opened in Aug, 1894.

Found at (A) Young man's skull, and a flint &c

(B) a boys skull.

(C) Cremated remains of a body.

(D) a child's skull.

Scale, ½ in to a foot.

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barrow; and we must remember Sir John Lubbock's warning not to ascribe every barrow to the Stone Age in which a stone instrument was found.

The larger mound yet remains to be explored, and as the work is now in progress, I hope before long to be allowed to offer an account of the discoveries made in opening it.

THE STONE CIRCLES ON CHETHAM'S CLOSE.

BY MAJOR GILBERT J. FRENCH.

CHETHAM'S Close lies in the township of Turton, about four miles from Bolton, and can be best approached from Turton Station on the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway. It formed part of the Turton estate, upon which Turton Tower was a prominent feature, and in 1628 passed into the hands of Humphrey Chetham, from whom it takes its name. Recently (in 1890) the Turton estate was sold by auction, and Chetham's Close became and now is the property of Thomas Hardcastle, Esq., J.P., of Bradshaw Hall, near Bolton, a member of this Society.

From time immemorial the existence of a so-called Druidical circle upon the top of Chetham's Close has been recognised, and at one time the monuments of this circle must have been very pronounced and prominent. Within the last quarter of a century, however, the stones have been sadly mutilated and in part destroyed. This was chiefly done by the tenant farmer of the late owner, Mr. James Kay, who objected to people visiting the situation. Mr. Kay was communicated with, but did

little or nothing to prevent the mutilation. I am glad to say that the present owner has expressed his intention of faithfully restoring and protecting the circle, and by the aid of the plan taken in 1871 by Mr. Thomas Greenhalgh, of Thornydikes, near Bolton, will have little trouble in doing so. Writing to me on August 9th, 1890, he says: "I have this afternoon spent some time on the site of the Druidical circle with Mr. Edmund Ashworth, and, with the assistance of Mr. Greenhalgh's plan, we have clearly made out the position of the circle. I am glad to find there are sufficient stones and remains of stones to enable this to be done, and it seems that there are similar stones close at hand to complete the circle."

By the courtesy of Mr. J. P. Earwaker, I have had placed in my hands an early description of the circle, published in 1829 (August 11th) in the first volume of the Cambrian Society, and contributed by a writer who signs himself "Elvaeliad." He says: "In the parish of Bolton-le-Moors is a hill named Turton Heights, and on the south-east end of it is a large sheep pasture, which goes by the name of Chetham's Close. Nearly on the summit of this close, but inclining to the north-east, are the remains of a bardic temple, the diameter of which is about seventeen yards. There are only six stones of the circle remaining, and these are sorely mutilated either by time or the hand of man. The circle is as perfect as if traced by the compasses of Newton or La Place; and, what is rather singular, an upright stone stands about thirty-seven yards nearly east from its outward verge and another about seventeen yards due south. The 'mæn gorsedd' has disappeared as well as some other stones forming the circle, and, from the oozy nature of the ground, I am inclined to

believe that independent of the mutilations mentioned the surface of the earth has risen considerably since the circle was first constructed. The views to the north and east are very fine, but bounded by hills rising and swelling above each other. Towards the south and south-east are seen Bolton and Manchester, with their busy populations; a considerable part of fertile Cheshire, Mow Hill in Staffordshire, and lofty ranges of mountains both in Derbyshire and Yorkshire; and were it not for *Edgar or Winter Hill on the west Penmaenmawr frowning upon the sea, Moel y Vammeau, and the bicapitated head of Snowdon would be distinctly visible on a clear day.

"Frequently have I visited this interesting spot, and, amidst the silence and solitude which reign there, thought of 'the days of former years.' Here have the bards in their different orders often met and performed their various rites and mysteries, with their uni-coloured robes flowing before the breeze. Here have hundreds, probably thousands, standing without the circle observed the solemn proceedings, and listened with deep attention to the maxims and doctrines which philosophers and Druids delivered. Since those periods, what changes, what revolutions have taken place! How often has the blue lightning flashed and the thunder rolled over this sacred spot! Kingdoms have risen and fallen, emperors have been throned and dethroned, arts and sciences have retrograded and advanced, and various and awful occurrences have taken place; but these rude stones, though severely shattered, still remain as attestations of the

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* This is evidently the origin of the name of the adjacent township, "Egerton." I have seen the place, "Edgar's town," marked in (fifteenth century) Lancashire maps.

religious and philosophical views of the ancient Briton. But where are the founders of this monument and those who worshipped there? The sages who often proclaimed within this circle, 'Y gwir yn erbyn y byd,' are gone the way of all flesh. 'Our fathers, where are they? the prophets, do they live for ever?'

"About a mile and a half from this bardic temple a neighbour and friend of mine, whilst digging a drain, about twenty years ago (1819), discovered the head of an old British standard, which is now in my possession. It is of copper, the head of which is shaped like an axe, and the other end has a double groove in which the flagstaff entered, and, by that means, became firmly fixed. Its weight is fourteen ounces and a half, but was evidently heavier when perfect, as the ring on its side through which the cord of the flag ran is broken off, and the lower end of the groove has been also mutilated. Its figure, though not an exact one, may be seen in Gough's edition of Camden's *Britannia*, vol. ii., p. 501, pl. xviii., figure 13. From traces still remaining it is evident that a Roman road passed within two hundred yards where this relic was found. Now, my opinion is that the Romans and Britons met there in hostile array, and with their flags unfurled; that in the action which took place the Roman soldiers, for soldiers are ever the same, dashed at the British flag and cut it down, and that, owing to the tumult, the confusion, and the boggy nature of the ground, the standard head was broken off, sunk into the earth, and was lost.

"ELVAELIAD.

"August 11th, 1829."

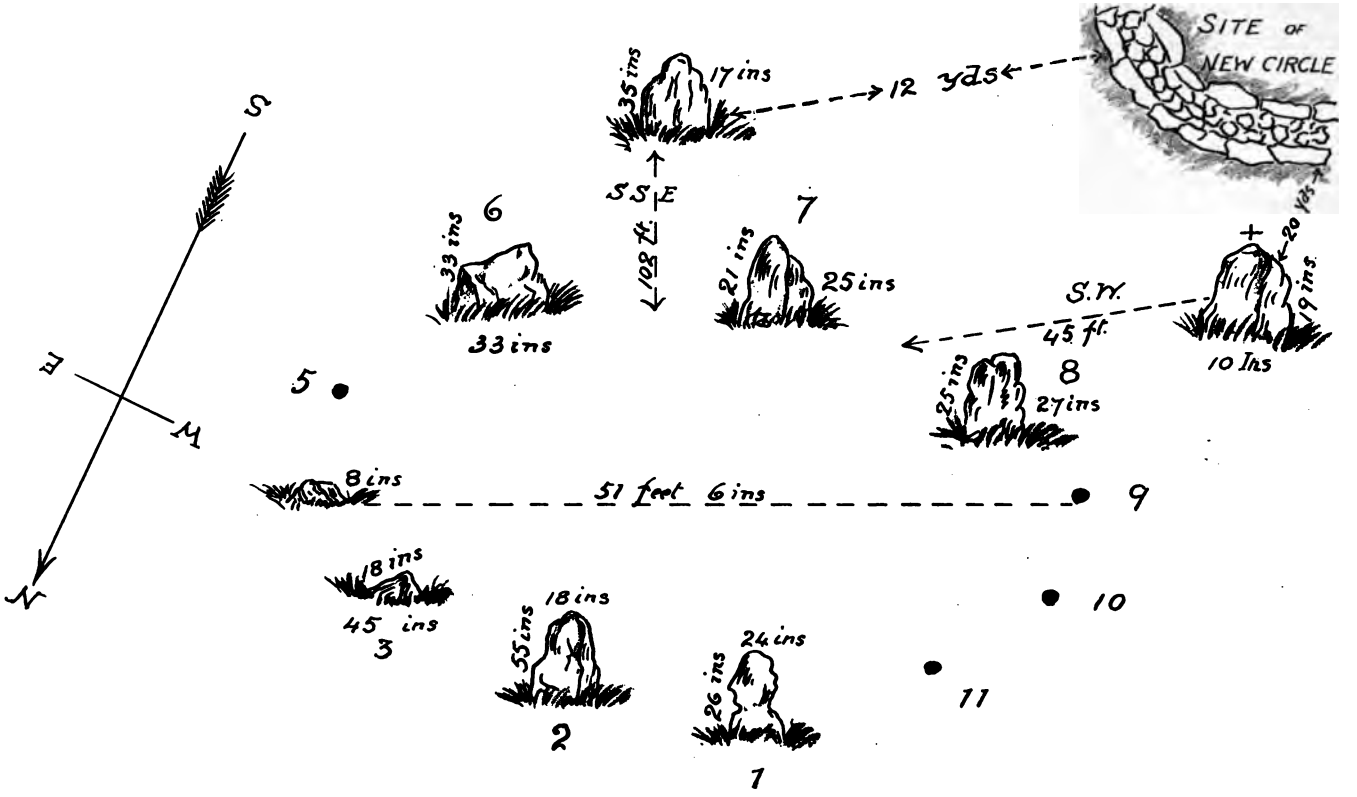
Thus ends this chronicler, and his testimony is useful as corroborating that of subsequent generations.

In 1871 Mr. Thomas Greenhalgh, of Thornydikes,

Bolton, prepared the following account of the circle, which was read before the British Archæological Association, on June 14th of that year, and is published in the twenty-seventh volume of the transactions of that society:—

"The township of Turton, like many others in south-west Lancashire, is largely occupied by lofty moorland hills—the home of the grouse and the lapwing. Amongst these wilds is a range of high ground standing more distinct from the other moors than is usual with hills of this nature. The range is divided into two parts by a slight depression. That portion to the north is named Turton Heights, and is stated by the Ordnance Survey to be one thousand one hundred feet above the sea. The southern half is known as Chetham Close, from its having been the property of that old Lancashire worthy, Humphrey Chetham. This part is twenty-five feet lower than Turton Heights, and the depression spoken of above sinks about thirty feet lower still. The summit of each is a sort of table-land, sloping gently towards the depression just named, and extending both together about a mile from north to south by a quarter of a mile from east to west.

"Nearly in the centre of the northerly slope of Chetham Close and at an elevation of one thousand and sixty feet stand several stones of a Druidical circle. This circle, I should judge, originally consisted of eleven stones. Of these seven are still standing in a more or less perfect state. The diameter of the circle is small, being only fifty-one feet six inches. So the stones are, as might be expected, small likewise. The tallest is fifty-five inches by eighteen inches wide, and the shortest (number four) eight inches only in height. At the distance of forty-five feet, south-west



PLAN OF DRUIDICAL CIRCLE ON CHETHAM CLOSE, NEAR BOLTON.

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from the outside of the circle, stands a solitary stone, nineteen inches high by ten inches wide, and south-south-east at a distance of one hundred and two feet another stone, thirty-five inches high by seventeen inches wide. The stones vary in thickness from nine inches to fifteen inches.

"The position of the stones is circular, with vacant spots, and their dimensions and shapes vary. The table-land gradually rises from the circle in a south-south-east direction and a short distance past the outlying stone a height of one thousand and seventy-five feet is attained, and a quarter of a mile further on a view is to be got, with a clear atmosphere, which towards the south is bounded only by the powers of vision. From this spot the ancient people who erected the circle must have often gazed on a scene which persons now familiar with south Lancashire would find it impossible to realise. The valleys and even the sides of the hills were clothed with trees, the oak and birch predominating, whilst the margins of the numerous streams and swamps were overhung by the alder; the wild boar and doubtless the wolf roamed in the woods, and smaller game abounded in the more open parts. The numerous waters throughout the district would be alive with fish, amongst which the salmon might be numbered; for when the country was better wooded and entirely uncultivated the large rainfall of the district (now about a mean of fifty-five inches) would be still more copious, and keep the streams full of water.

"The last few centuries have, however, wrought a wonderful change in the scene, which has been the most rapid since the introduction of machinery into the country; and from the same spot may now be seen the habitations, comprised in towns, villages, and farm-

houses, of hundreds of thousands of human beings. Unfortunately, however, there are still to be found amongst us persons as barbarous in some respects as the rude people who erected the circle. These were rude in their ideas of building; the others barbarous in wantonly destroying that which time had made more interesting than the palaces of kings. Up to the spring of last year the circle appeared to have suffered little for ages; but at that time rambling over the moors I turned aside to take another look at the circle. Not that I thought of anything having happened, but for old acquaintance' sake; when to my surprise I noticed a framework of wood within the circle, and upon reaching the spot itself what my disgust and astonishment were may be easily imagined, when I found two of the stones broken almost to fragments, and several others damaged. This could only have been effected by the aid of a heavy hammer, as the stones broken were before strong and sound. Fortunately, they were not rooted up so their places are still seen in the group. One very small one has apparently been in the state it now is for a long time.

"I at once communicated my unpleasant discovery to the owner of the land, James Kay, Esq., of Turton Tower, who instituted an enquiry, and traced it to some members of a picnic party, who had made use of the ground without asking leave. A few more such wanton pieces of mischief, and this interesting relic, like many others of its class, will be irrecoverably destroyed.

"About a mile from the circle, north-west from it and on a much lower level, eight hundred and ninety feet above the sea, is a flat piece of bog, called 'Charter's Moss.' Here was found, about 1810, a bronze British celt. It was discovered by a man whilst digging turf, as I am told, at four feet from the surface. Having taken a

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A BRITISH CELT.

FULL SIZE, BRONZE.
COPY FROM PHOTOGRAPH.

FOUND IN A TURBERY ON CHARTER'S MOSS, IN THE TOWNSHIP OF TURTON, 4½ MILES FROM BOLTON, ABOUT 1810.

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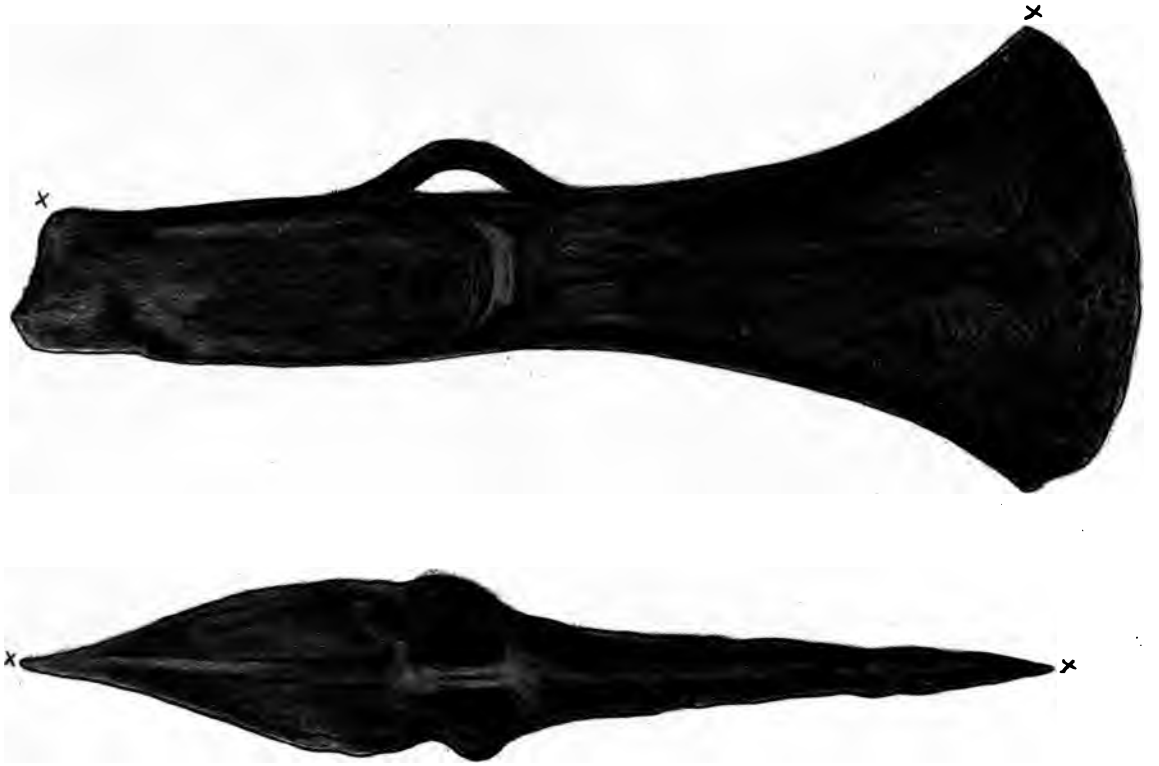


BRITISH STANDARD.

FOUND ON COCKEY MOOR, NEAR AINSWORTH, BOLTON, IN 1839.
DRAWN FROM ORIGINAL BY GILBERT J. FRENCH. FULL SIZE, BRONZE.

careful drawing of it, I found, upon comparing it with similar objects in the British Museum, that in cases Nos. 13 to 20, 'British Antiquities Department,' there were several closely resembling it, and one, No. 315 *Z*, the all but exact representation of it. The Rev. Mr. Probert, in whose possession it had been for nearly half a century, and who resided a few hundred yards from the spot where it was dug up, died recently (then 1871), and bequeathed it to New College,* Gordon Square, London."

I have no doubt that the British celt referred to in this account by Mr. Greenhalgh is the same as that mentioned in the previous description by "Elvaeliad," and I conjecture that this is the *nom de guerre* of the same Rev. William Probert referred to, who was a literary man, and the author of *Ancient Laws of Cambria* (1823) and other works. I am glad to say that this celt was kindly given up by the authorities of Manchester New College, and has been placed in the Chadwick Museum, Bolton. It is also interesting to note that a similar specimen was found in a quarry on Cockey Moor, near Ainsworth, about three miles from and in view of the circle, by Dr. Denham, about 1839. It is still in the possession of his family.

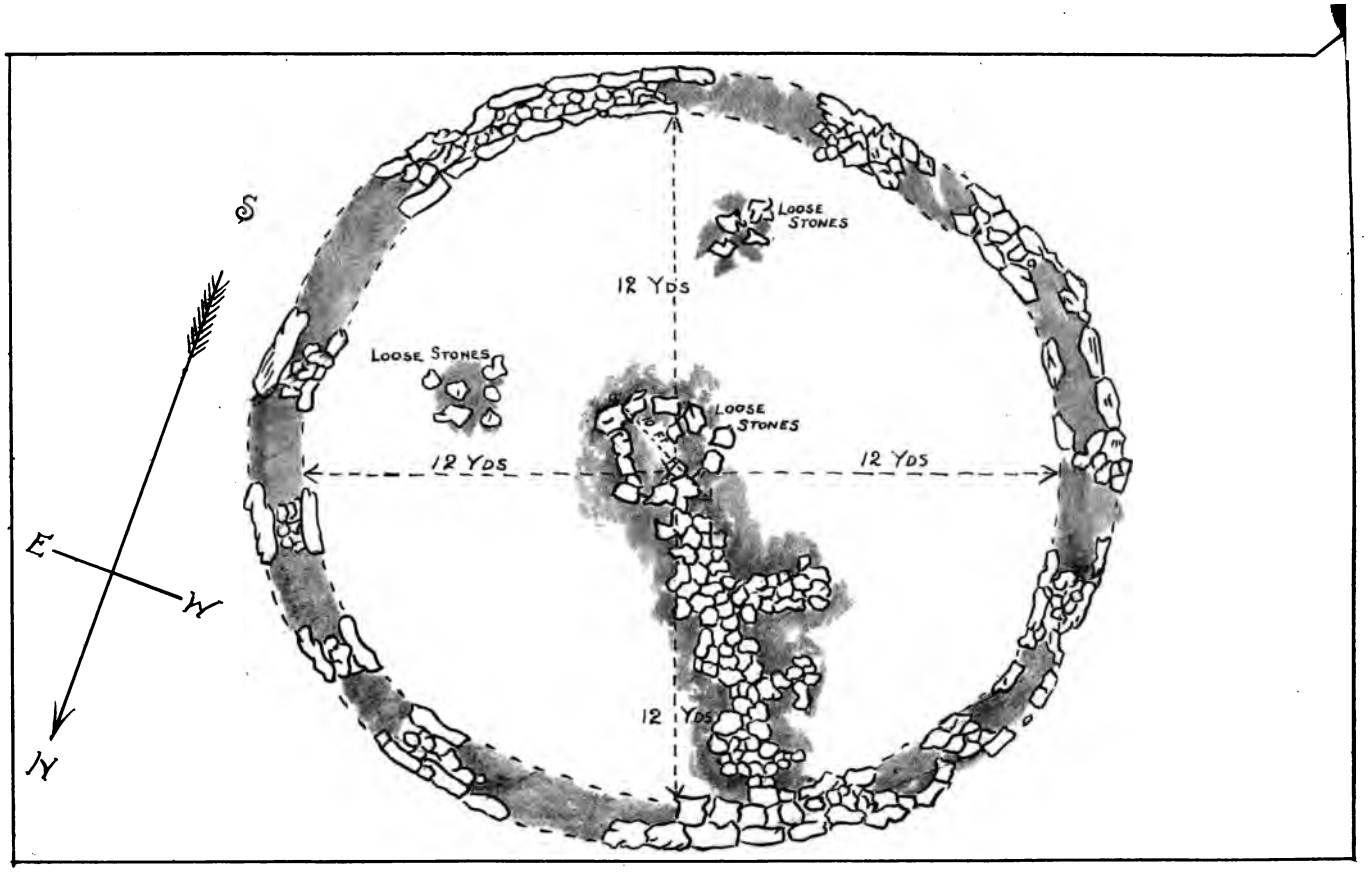
Mr. Matthew Dawes, of Bolton, also wrote a description of the circle, which was read before the Historic Society, in 1852. He says: "I accompanied Sir Henry Dryden to visit these remains in 1850. At that time there remained six stones upright, varying in height from one foot six inches to four feet, and in thickness from eleven inches to two feet. Judging from the relative distances of those remaining three stones have been

* Now the Manchester College, Oxford (Unitarian).

taken away. At one hundred and fifteen feet south-east from the circle is a single stone and at eighty-two feet south-west is another, and between these two stones is an assemblage of smaller stones only just appearing out of the boggy soil."

It has long been supposed that this circle of upright stones was the only one on the site; indeed, the late Mr. Scholes, in his recently published *History of Bolton*, says (p. 11) only one circle is known about Bolton.

In June of last year, in company with Mr. Thomas Hardcastle, I visited the site, and noticed what was evidently another circle. This we perceived from the stones cropping up in places and from the nature of the turf. I find that the same opinion was formed by a member of the Manchester Literary Club (the late Mr. E. Kirk), who, in a paper read before the club, in November, 1878, says: "There are two circles, the more northerly formed of large individual stones, set diadem or corona fashion, the other of smaller stones, as if it had been a walled enclosure with a pile in the centre." This observation is quite correct, and a removal of the surface of the earth last June to a depth of three to six inches revealed a perfect stone-walled circle, as shown in the illustration. This circle is larger than the upright one, being exactly twenty-four yards across (the size of similar stone circles, *ex. gr.*, the circle at Zennor, Cornwall). It lies to the south-west of the upright circle and is twenty yards from the outlying westerly stone of same, and is twelve yards from the outlying southerly stone of same, and is on slightly higher ground than the first circle. The circle is faced on both inside and outside by large flat stones, and the space within is occupied by smaller stones. I can find no trace of mortar nor marks of tools, nor do I find any gateway or opening to the



PLAN OF THE NEWLY-DISCOVERED STONE CIRCLE ON CHETHAM CLOSE, NEAR BOLTON.

DRAWN BY GILBERT J. FRENCH, 1894.

UNIV. OF MICH.

circle, although the whole of it has not yet been laid bare. The circling wall is of an average width or thickness of four feet. The stones are the ordinary grit stone of the district. The removal of part of the earth within the circle has shown a number of stones lying there and there is also a large collection in the exact centre. It is most symmetrically round, and the wall is very evenly and regularly constructed.

I think there is no doubt but that it is of later date than the upright circle and may have been subsequently used as a place of worship.

Possibly it may, in accordance with the theory of Dr. Colley March, have been a place for mortuary exposure before subsequent sepulture, and it is interesting to note that the Three Lowes in the valley below and about half a mile away are reputed Barrows. No bones or remains of any sort have yet been found, but so far only the upper surface lies exposed. Its situation and shape preclude the idea of its being a "sheep fold," and from its dimensions it is not likely to have been a watch tower or a "burgh." Possibly it may be the site of a collection of ancient British dwellings, clustered together, and defended by the enclosing wall. The owner, Mr. Hardcastle, intends to make careful excavations, and from these some further information and enlightenment will probably be thrown upon the origin of what is undoubtedly a most interesting and important archæological discovery.

CHRONOLOGICAL NOTES ON THE VISITATIONS OF PLAGUE IN LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

BY WILLIAM E. A. AXON.

EUROPE in the middle ages, and indeed far into the modern period, was subject to awful visitations of disease, which are frequently referred to under the general name of plague and pestilence, though the successive epidemics may not be identical in character. The terms have not been used with any precise accuracy, and are applied to any instances of exceptional mortality. The bubo plague, however, has a recorded existence from the middle of the fourteenth century to beyond the middle of the seventeenth century. That Lancashire and Cheshire had their share of the earlier epidemics need not be doubted, but definite information is wanting before the Black Death.

The Black Death, 1349-52.

Hecker regards 1347-50 as the period of the Black Death, and estimates that the deaths in Europe from it were twenty-five millions. The moral effects of the Black Death were notable. Fear killed many whom

the disease might have spared. Evil-doers were seized with repentance or at least with dread. When this world seemed to be lost, the next acquired a fresh significance. Terror and disease gave a fearful activity to fanaticism, and there arose the wandering hordes of Flagellants, who punished themselves by many stripes for the sins of the people, which superstition regarded as the cause of the pestilence. These organisations attracted the most opposite of characters. The riff-raff and the nobly born and delicately nurtured—men, women, and children, nobles and serfs—all joined the Brotherhood of the Cross. The Church, which in the first instance looked with suspicion on this formidable accession to the militant forces of religion, was unable to resist the general infection, and ecclesiastics of both sexes joined the pilgrimage of the Flagellants, which extended through Germany, Hungary, Poland, Bohemia, Silesia, and Flanders.

We know from the chronicles that the Black Death raged throughout England, which, indeed, is said to have lost one-third of its inhabitants by the visitation. This plague originated in the countries of the east, and, travelling by the trade routes, reached Italy by Genoese ships from the Crimea. The epidemic caused great devastation, which has been described by Boccaccio and Petrarch. It reached Marseilles also by some Genoese ships, and in its course reached every country of Europe. This pestilence invaded England in the autumn of 1348. Calais, which was then in the hands of the English, was infected, and Jersey and Guernsey suffered greatly. In August the Bishop of Bath and Wells ordered stations and processions every Friday, and offered an indulgence of forty days to all who would fast, pray, or give alms for the

avoidance of the threatened pestilence, which was regarded as a visitation of the anger of God. The intercession was in vain, and the plague entered the kingdom at Melcombe Regis in Dorsetshire. The weather was abnormally wet, there being rain almost every day from Midsummer to Christmas. The story of the Black Death in England has recently been retold by Dr. Gasquet, who has investigated in particular the data as to the mortality of the clergy. The benefices in Cheshire were about seventy. In June, July, August, and September there were thirty institutions in the archdeaconry of Chester. The non-beneficed clergy are not included. In August there was a new prioress at St. Mary's, Chester, and a new prior at Norton. There are also evidences of reduction of rent consequent upon the decreased value of farms. At Netherton, a year after the plague had been stayed, eleven houses and a great quantity of land, which fell into the hands of the lord of the manor through the pestilence, still remained in his possession. In Bucklow manor, at Michaelmas, 1350, there were two hundred and fifteen acres of arable land lying waste for which no tenants could be found through the pestilence. The rent of a garden was put down at twelvepence, because "there was no one to buy the produce." Forty-six tenants were killed by the plague and thirty-four were in arrears. One-third of the rent on this estate was remitted.

Mr. A. G. Little has printed in the *English Historical Review*, July, 1890 (p. 524), the data submitted to a jury of eighteen who had been empannelled to settle a dispute between the Archdeacon of Richmond and Adam de Kirkham, Dean of Amounderness, touching the account rendered by the dean, as proctor for the archdeacon, of fees received for instituting to vacant livings, for probates

of wills, and for administrations of the goods of intestates. The dean's account to the archdeacon is said to run "from the Feast of the Nativity of our Lady [8th September] in the year of our Lord 1349 into the eleventh day of January following." The archdeacon alleges what fees Adam de Kirkham has received, but had not accounted for, and the jury find what Adam did actually receive. Nine benefices of one kind or another are mentioned as vacant, three of them twice. The numbers said to have died in the several parishes, with the numbers of wills and of intestates' estates, are by Dr. Creighton tabulated as follows:—

Parish.	Men and Women dead.	With Wills (above 100 sh.).	Intestate (above 100 sh.).
Preston	3,000	300	200
Kirkham	3,000	—	100
Pulton	800	—	40
Lancaster	3,000	400	80
Garestang	2,000	400	140
Cokram	1,000	300	60
Ribchestre ...	(illegible)	70	40
Litham	140	80	80
St Michel	80	50	40
Pulton	60	40	20

On this Dr. Creighton remarks: "Of the alleged 300 who died in Preston parish, leaving wills, five married couples are named, the probate fees being respectively ½ marc, 6 sh., 40d, 4 sh., and 40d. The archdeacon's whole claim for the 300 was 20 marcs, which the jury reduced to 10 pounds. Of the alleged 200 intestates in the same parish, two married couples, one woman, and 'Jakke o þe hil' are named. In the parish of Garstang, the executors of 6 deceased are named, whose probate fees in all amounted to 16 sh. 10d., the whole claim of

the archdeacon for 400 deceased leaving wills being £10, and the award of the jury 20 sh. This was a parish in which 3000 are said to have died, the number of wills being not stated. The numbers had obviously been put in for a forensic purpose, and are, of course, not even approximately correct for the actual mortality, or the actual numbers of wills proved, or of letters of administration granted. The awards of the jury amounted in all to £48. 10s." The chapel of St. Mary Magdalen at Preston had remained unserved for seven weeks. Nine benefices had been vacant, three of them twice. At Lytham the priory was vacant, as also was that of Cartmel. One curious glimpse of the economical state of Lancashire we gather from the Statute of Labourers, which was intended to prevent that increase of wages arising from the scarcity of workmen. In common with the men of the counties of Stafford and Derby, the people of Craven, and those of the Welsh and Scotch Marches, the Lancashire labourers were allowed to go elsewhere in search of employment during the harvest time, "as they were wont to do before this time," and as the Irish harvestmen do in the present day (Creighton, p. 183; *Rot. Parl.*, ii. 234).

Hollinworth records under the date of 1352 that a "Commission was granted by the Bishop of Lichfield for the dedication of the chappell yard of Didsbury, within the parish of Manchester, for the buriall of such as died of the pestilence in that hamlet, and in neighboring hamlets, in the chappell yard there, because of their distance from the parish church of Manchester." It seems strange that this arrangement should be so long after the pestilence. Is it a mistake in the date or is it a case of locking the stable door after the horse has been stolen?

1423. A precept, dated 11 Henry V. (A.D. 1423), was issued on the 11th June of that year to the sheriff of the county, commanding him to cause proclamation to be made in all market towns and elsewhere within the county, that the sessions which were fixed to be holden at the town of Lancaster, on Tuesday, the morrow of St. Lawrence, should be there commenced, and thence adjourned to the Wednesday following to the town of Preston in Amounderness; because the king hath heard, both by vulgar report and the creditable testimony of honest men, that in certain parts of Lancashire, and especially in Lancaster, there was raging so great a mortality that a large portion of the people there from the corrupt and pestiferous air, infected with divers infirmities and deadly diseases, were dying rapidly, and the survivors quitting the place from dread of death, so that the lands remained untilled, and the most grievous desolation reigned where late was plenty.

1485. A disease hitherto unknown, which, from its symptoms, was called the "sweating sickness," prevailed at this time in Lancashire, and in other parts of the kingdom (Baines, i., p. 243).

1500. The plague broke out in Lancashire and was very virulent (Abram).

1507. Chester did not escape from the new visitation of the "sweating sickness" in 1507, when ninety-one householders died in three days, "and but four of them widows" (Ormerod).

1517. There was a "great plague" in Chester in 1517, so that "for want of trading the grass did grow a foot

high at the cross, and other streets in the city" (Ormerod, vol. i., p. 234). This Creighton thinks would be the true plague following the sweating sickness (p. 249).

1540. It is said that Liverpool was nearly depopulated by the plague in this year (Abram).

1548. In this year two hundred and fifty died, probably a quarter of the then population of Liverpool.

1551. Dr. John Caius mentions that the sweating sickness of 1551 began at Shrewsbury, proceeding "with great mortalitie" to various places in Wales, then to Westchester and other places on the way to London, which it reached in July. The sickness was as swift as it was fatal. Some were destroyed by it "in opening their windowes; some in plaieing with children in their strete dores, some in one hour, many in two it destroyed, and at the longest to them that merilye dined, it gaue a sorrowful supper" (*Book against the Sweate*). In the parish register of Ulverston is an entry that the great number of burials in that year (thirty-nine in August alone) was due to the visitation of the plague.

1558. The plague of 1558 is described in the following passage of the Liverpool Corporation records: "This year and the year before was great sickness in Liverpoole, as was all the country of these parts in Lancashire, and specially a great plague in Manchester, by reason whereof this town was in great dread and fear; and on St. Lawrence's day was buried Mr. Roger Walker [who was mayor in 1553], and also a child of Nicholas Brayes, at the Pool House, the new house that Robert Corbett made, at the death of which said

Brayes's child was great murmur and noise that the plague should be brought into that house by an Irishman, one John Hughes, coming sickly from Manchester, and brought his linen clothes thither to be washed, which after could not be found true by no probation before Mr. Mayor then being, nor Mr. Mayor then next after, which was Mr. Corbett; but for all that, ever after that day, the whole town suspected it for the very plague and pestilence of God, because there was out of the same house buried, within five or six days late before . . . persons;* and so after that it increased daily and daily to a great number, that died between the said St. Lawrence day and Martlemas then next after, the whole number of 240 and odd persons, under thirteen score; and that year was no fair kept at St. Martin's day, nor market till after the Christmas next" (Picton's *Memorials of Liverpool*, vol. i., p. 51).

The accidental character of our knowledge of these visitations is illustrated by the fact that its local annalists have not mentioned this "great plague" in Manchester.

From Gregson we learn that the Liverpool burial-place for this plague was in the neighbourhood of Sawney Pope Street *(Fragments)*. The manner in which the Liverpool authorities dealt with the difficulty is set forth in the following instructions: "It is ordered that all persons who may happen to be visited with the pestilence in the said town, that every one of them shall depart out of their houses and make their cabins on the Heath, and there to tarry from the feast of the Anunciation of our Lady until the feast of St. Michael the Archangel; and from the said feast of St. Michael

* Defect in the MS.

unto the said feast of the Anunciation of Our Lady, to keep them on the back side of their houses, and keep their doors and windows shut on the street side until such time as they have licence from the Mayor to open them, and that they keep no fire in their houses, but between 12 and 3 of the clock at afternoon, and that no other person or persons be of family conversation or dwell with them upon pain of imprisonment; and to keep their own houses, and that they walk in no streets except for a reasonable cause; and their houses be cleaned, dressed or dyght with such as shall be appointed by Mr. Mayor for the safeguard of the town."

The plague was in Chester in the same year. Few died, but many fled to escape the same (Ormerod, i. 235). In February, 1559, Cheshire is described in a state paper as "weakened by the prevalence of the plague" (Creighton, p. 304).

In 1561 there was issued "A newe booke conteyninge, an exortacion to the sicke." The tract ends with the following parody on the nostrums for the cure of the pestilence: "Take a pond of good hard penaunce, and washe it wel with the water of youre eyes, and let it ly a good whyle at your hert. Take also of the best fyne fayth, hope and charyte yt you can get, a like quantite of al mixed together, your soule even full, and use this confection every day in your lyfe, whiles the plages of god reigneth. Then, take both your handes ful of good workes commaunded of God, and kepe them close in a clene conscience from the duste of vayne glory, and ever as you are able and se necessite so to use them. This medicine was found wryten in an olde byble boke, and it

hath been practised and proved true of mani, both men and women" (Collier's *Bib. Account*, i. 74).

1562. A "great plague" visited Preston in 1562, which was the year of the Guild Merchant. Of its effects no details are on record.

1565. Hollinworth tells us that in "Anno 1565 there was a sore sicknesse in Manchester and about it, of which very many died." Baines states that this sickness greatly increased the effect of Dean Nowell's powerful preaching. "There is," adds Baines, "a very prevalent but obscure tradition in this neighbourhood that a plague prevailed here; it may have been this 'sore sickness,' or it may have been 'the plague of 1604,' as no one can assign the date; and on the road from Stretford to Manchester there is a stone, about three feet high, on the top of which are cut two small basons. It is called the 'plague-stone,' and it is said, at the time when this malady raged in Manchester, that these basons were filled with water. When the country people brought their provisions the purchasers put their money into one of the basons, to purify it from the pestilential touch of the townspeople, before it went into the hands of the farmers. There are several other stones about the town of a similar appearance, and, no doubt, applied to the same purpose" (Baines, vol. i., p. 312).

1574. A plague began in Chester in 1574, but resulted only in the death of some few in the Crofts (Ormerod, i. 236). Canon R. H. Morris has given this account of it: "The plague visited Chester in 1574. The city authorities had for years past been active in checking the insanitary habits and practices of there fellow citizens, but the

frequent presentation of offenders show how difficult it was at that to enforse the rules on an indifferent and ill-instructed populace. When the terrible visitation came, it appears to have been a common practice to put up palisading to isolate houses from the dangers of contagion; and leases of this time invarably contain a provision prohibiting palisading or hoarding within the city, saving only in time of pestilence."* Persons were bound in heavy sums not to receive any lodgers coming from suspected neighbourhoods, and the mayor, Sir John Savage, issued a number of strict regulations for coping with the danger.† A complaint from several persons in

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*Tabulas roboreas palos aut perticas sive sepam circundere nisi solamodo tempore pestilencie infra civitatem.

†"17 Eliz [1574] Roger Calcot bound in £10 not by himself or by any other person for him at any other tyme or tymes hearafter receyue or lodge in his house or any other place of his any manner of person or persons which shall come out of the Realme of Ireland or from the cities of London and Bristol or either of them or out of or from any other place suspected to be infected with the desease called the plague without the licens of the maior of the City of Chester for the tyme being or in his absens, of the Justices of peasc in the same citie. 8 Nov [1574] The right worshipful Sir John Sauage, knight, maior of the City of Chester had consideracion of the present state of the said citie somewhat visited with what is called the plage, and divisinge the best meanes and orderlie waies he can, with [the advice] of his Bretheren the alderman, Justices of peace within the citie aforesaid (through the goodness of God) to avoid the same hath with such advice, sett forth ordained and appointed (amongst others) the points, articles, clauses, and orders folowing, which he willeth and commandeth all persons to observe and kepe, upon the severall pains therein contayned:

"Imprimis. That no person nor persons who are or shalbe visited with the said sickness, or any others who shall be of there company, shall go abrode out of there houses without licence of the alderman of the ward such persons inhabite, And that every person soe licensed to beare openlie in their hands . . . three quarters long . . . ense . . . shall goe abrode out of the . . . upon paine that eny person doynge the contrary to be furthwith expulsed out of the said citie.

"2. Item if any person doe company with any persons visited, they alsoe to beare . . . upon like payne

"3. Item that none of them soe visited doe goe abroad in any part or place within the citie in the night season, upon like payne.

Pepper Street show how these regulations were in practice, or neglected to the common danger.*

1576. The plague was at Northwich in 1576, and the house of Phil. Antrobus being infected most of the family died. Household linen, valued at 13s. 4d., was put into the river to prevent further use, and sixteen years later the son claimed compensation for this destruction of property (Creighton, p. 340; *Calendar of State Papers: Domestic*, 1591-94, p. 269).

"4. Item that the accustomed due watche to be kepte every night, within the said citie, by the inhabitents thereof

"5. Item the same watchman to apprehend and take up all night walkers and such suspect as shalbe founde within and to bring them to the Justice of peace, of that . . . the gaile of the Northgate, that further order may be taken with them as shall appear . . .

"6. Item that no swine be kept, within the said citie nor any other place, then . . . side prively nor openlie after the xiiith daie of this present moneth, upon paine of fyne and imprisonment of every person doing the contrary.

"7. Item that no donge, muck or filth, at any tyme, hearafter be caste, within the walls of the said citie, upon paine of ffyne and imprisonment at his worships direction.

"8. Item that no kind or sort of . . . or any wares from other place be brought in packs into the said citie of Chester, untill the same be ffirste opened and eired without the libities of the said citie, upon paine last recited.

"9. Item that papers or writing containing this sence Lord haue mercie upon us, to be fixed upon euery house, dore post, or other open place, to the the street of the house so infected.

"10. Item that no person of the said citie doe suffer any their doggs to goe abrode out of there houses or dwellings, upon paine that euery such dogge so founde abrode shalbe presently killed. And the owners thereof ponished at his worships pleasure."

*"1 To the right worshipful Sir John Savage, knight, maior of the Citie of Chester the aldermen, sheriffs, and common counsaile of the same.

"In most humble wise complayninge sheweth unto your worships, your Orators the persons whose names are subscribed inhabiting in a certain lane within the same citie called Pepper Street, That where yt haue pleased God to infect divers persons of the same Street with the plage, and where also for the avoidinge of further infection your worships have taken order that all such so infected should observe certaine good

In the Hawkshead parish register, under date of November, 1577, is the entry: "In this month began the pestilent Sickness in this Parishe, which was brought in by one George Barwick, whereof is deceased those that are thus markt." The number of burials so marked is thirty-eight.

1588. Hollinworth states that seventy of the parishioners of Manchester died in the month of April.

1594. "The sicknesse was in Faylesworth, in Clough House" (Hollinworth).

1601. The plague was at Liverpool in 1601.

1603. Of the visitation of the plague in Chester during 1603 we have this account: "The 22nd of August, in the night time, a wonderful exhalation of a fiery colour, likewise a canopy, was seen over this city; and in September following the great plague began in Chester, in one Glover's house, in St. John's Lane." In the MS. of Rogers it is added that "seven persons died in a short time out of this house, and that the plague kept in-

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necessaarye orders by your worships made and provided. But so it is, right worships, that none of the said persons infected do observe any of the orders by your worships in that case taken, to the greate danger and perill, not only of your Orators and their famelyes being in number twenty, but also of the reste of the said citie, who by the sufferance of God and of his gracious goodness are clere and safe from any infection of the said deceas: In consideration whereof your Orators moste humbly beseche your worships for Gods sake, and as your worships intend it your Orators should by the sufferance of God avoide the dangers of the said deceas with their family and also for the better safty of the citie to take such directions with the said infected persons that they may clearly be avoided from thens to some other convenient for the time untill God shall restore them to their former health. And in this doing your Orators shall daily pray &c. ROBT PHILLIPS, PETER HUES.—*Chester in the Plantagenet and Tudor Periods*, by Rupert H. Morris, 1894, pp. 78-79.

creasing until sixty died weekly. Michaelmas fair was not kept this year on account of the plague. The infected persons were taken out of their houses and conveyed into houses and cabins built at the water side, near unto the New Tower, and were there relieved at the cost of the city. Nothing of importance passed because of the plague increasing among us, only the High Cross was new gilt; to whom let it be memorable that liketh thereof; there died of the plague in this city, from Mr. Glasier's time (mayor year previous) until the 13th of October, 650, and other diseases 61" (Rogers's MSS.).

Macclesfield and Congleton also suffered. Mr. Earwaker tells us that "The authorities of the town and the county magistrates, Sir Urian Legh, of Adlington, Knt., Thomas Stanley of Alderley, and Randle Davenport of Henbury, Esqs., were very active to prevent it spreading, and in a MS. volume now preserved at Capesthorne is an account of the precautions which were taken: 'Watch and ward was kept at every common passage out of the towne and at cross lanes neare adjoyning to ye towne to keepe in ye Townsmen.' 'A markett every Munday was kept in an open place 3 quarters of a Myle from ye Towne where 2 or 3 of the Justices were weekly present to see ye towne and country kept asunder and to se ye money, corne, and other provision distributed which came from ye country either by tax or guift.' 'The justices had weekly notice which streets were infected, how many houses in every street, how many person in each house and ye ability (for health) of ye parties.' 'The justices had every markett a bill [or list] of ye names of such as dyed the weeke before.' Under date of June 17, 1604, there is an entry in the parish register of the death of 'Dominick, a gentleman that dyed at Mrs. Brereton's, of Edge, of a plague of pestilence,' and

on the 22nd of the same month another entry of Thomas Plymley, servant to Mrs. Brereton, of the same malady. In this same year the plague continued still in Chester, increasing every week, for the weekly accounts were too tedious to repeat, tho' I could express it very near; but from the 14th of October to the 20th of March 812 persons died" (Rogers's MSS).

During 1603-4 "the fourth of a Mize was levied through the country 'for the relief of the infected townes of Macclesfeld and Congleton.' The order is preserved in Harl. MS. 2,090, fol. 26-8, together with the amounts collected in each Hundred. The following contributions were made by the several townships round Congleton: '1000 loaves, 1000 pails of milk, 50 pails of Milk Porridge, 150 good cheeses, 50 pieces of beef, 6 flitches of bacon, one great bun, 10 oatcakes, 100 puddings, several bear pies, pasty pies, and a gallon of butter'" (Head's *Congleton, Past and Present*, p. 71).

The *Manchester Court Leet Records*, under date of 6th October, 1603, there is a passing reference to "theise dangerous tymes of Infecc̃on."

1604. In 1604 Nantwich was visited by the plague. The Wilbraham MS. Journal says: "yt uppon St. Peters Day [June 29th] 1604 there began a great plague in this Towne of Namptwiche, wch continued about six monthes, whereof there died in that space about 500 people, and soe by Gods mercifful providence the plague ceased." The parish register gives a fuller account: "1604 July. This yeare together with the former yeare and the yeare followinge this Realme of England was vissited with a contagious plauge generally, whereof many thousands in London, and other Townes and Cities died of the same. The said plauge begane in

our Towne of Namptwich about the 24th of June 1604, being brough[t] out of Chester and here dispersed diversely, soe y^{t} presently our Market was spoyled, the town abandoned of all the wealthy inhabitants: who fledd for refuge into diuers places of the country adioyninge. But of those which remained at home ther Dyed from the 12th June till the 2nd of March followinge about the number of 430 persons of all deceases. Now seeing god in mercy hath withdrawn his punishing hand, and hath quenched the spark of contagious infection among us. God graunt that we by Repentaunce may prevent further punishment and that the remembrance of this plauge past, may remain in our hearts for that purpose for ever. Amen." No marriage register was kept in 1604; the baptisms are wanting from August 12th to the 10th March following. Three hundred and sixty-six burials, of which none are expressly said to have died of this horrible disease, are recorded. The clerk has notified this irregularity in keeping the parish books, accounting for it "by reason of the plauge which hinder'd the good procedeinge of the Regester for that yeare" (Hall's *Nantwich*, p. 113).

To meet the distress a county rate, amounting to "halfe the whole pay^{mt} of the myze," appears to have been levied; and *Harl. MSS.* 2090, *f.* 18-20, contain "various sums of money collected in Macclesfield Hundred &c. by order of Sessions holden at Chester 10 Oct 1604, towards the relief of the towns of Namptwiche and Northwyche, infected with the Plague." The constables of the hundreds, who collected the rate, paid the moneys to appointed receivers, and presented their accounts to the magistrates, who paid over the sums for the purpose intended at various times. Thus about August, 1605, the following

sums were disbursed from Macclesfield hundred (£2. 12s. 11d. then remaining to be collected): "Impr. to m^r^ Delues his man for the Namptwich vi^li^ [£6] Item, deliuered to Sr Urian Leigh wch was lykewise p^d^ vnto mr Delues his man v^li^ [£5]."

For months after the town was freed from the infection, all persons leaving the town were required to produce certificates of removal. Thus* "Richard Maisterson and 13 other residents bailis and constables of Nantwich to the Justices of the Peace gentry and inhabitants of Manchester, Being required to certify our knowledge touching the behaviour of John Warrant, Henry Brooke, Ellen Foulke, and Cicely Smith, late of this town, and now in Macnh^r^, while the sickness remained here, we certify that in the last visitation, they were severally visited with the sickness, and that during that time they demeaned themselves orderly, without doing anything that might breed any danger or infection to their neighbours. Nantwich 31 July 1605."

1605. In 1605, in consequence of the plague being at Chester, the court of exchequer was removed to Tarvin, and the county assizes were held at Nantwich (Hall's *Nantwich*, 114, 115).

Mr. Earwaker states that towards the end of 1605 a very severe visitation of the plague appears to have attacked Stockport, and the registers record that between the 9th of October, 1605, and the 14th August, 1606, fifty-one persons died of it. He cites the following entries:—

"Madd Marye was buryed the 9th October, 1605, *of the plague*. Thomas, the reputed sonne of Thos. Rodes, of Stockport, *suspected to dye of it*, was buried 26th October,

* *Calendar of State Papers*, Addenda Jac. I., vol. xxxviii., p. 478 (1580-1625).

1605. John, the sonne of Richard Jackson of Tadcaster, in the countie of Yorke, *a Dresser of Houses infected with the plague*, was baptized the 7th February, 1605. James, sonne of James Williamson of Stockport, Alderman, *dyed of the plague*, and was buried the 20th Julye, 1606. Roger Orme of Stockport, *dyed of the plague*, buried August 1, 1606. John Oldham of Stockport, belman, *died of the plague*, buried 14th August, 1606."

The plague was even more severe in Macclesfield. The entries in the register are headed, "Burials in Macclesfelde since God's visitation." They are closely written on two pages of the register, and from September 3rd to October 3rd are over seventy entries. Whole families appear to have died. It was most active in certain streets, Dog Lane [now Stanley Street], Back Street [now King Edward Street], and Mylne Street [Mill Street].

At Manchester, "Anno 1605, the Lord visited the town (as 40 years before and 40 years after) with a sore pestilence; there died 1000 persons, amongst whom were Mr. Kirke, Chaplain of the College, and his wife and four children. All the time of the Sickness Mr. Burn preached in the town so long as he durst (by reason of the unruliness of the infected persons and want of Government), and then he went and preached in a field near to Shooter's Brook, the Town's people being on one side him and the country people on the other" (Hollinworth's *Mancuniensis*). This courageous divine was the Rev. William Bourne, B.D., Fellow of the Collegiate Church.

A weekly tax was levied on the inhabitants of Manchester, some time previous to 1606, for the relief of the poor infected or suspected of being infected with the plague (Creighton, p. 499, *Cal. State Papers*, Add.

1580-1625). [This I think is a mistake for 1608. See under that year.]

The Michaelmas court leet was not held owing to plague. "It appears from the Burial Register of the Collegiate Church that by July 21st, 1605, 500 persons had been buried, by August 20th, 700, and that by Jan 17th 1605-6 the number of 1000 had been reached. Nearly all of these had died of the Plague, but towards December those who had died from other causes are distinguished by the words 'not of ye plague' added after their names" (*Manchester Court Leet Records*).

There has been preserved in the State Paper Office "a note of the money layde out," 1st February to 5th March, 1605-[6]. The following entries show the cost of the plague to the town authorities:—

Imp'mis for coales to ye Pesthouse -		xvj^d^
It^m^ for bearinge a ffardell of clothes to the Pesthouse - - - -		iij^d^
— to John browne and his wyffe* - -	iiij^s^	
— to John Walker and his wyffe† -	iiij^s^	viiij^d^
— to ye Pesthouse - - - -	vii^s^	viii^d^
— p^d^ for wyndinge Raphe Diconson‡ -		viii
— pd strawe to ye Pesthouse for Marshalls ffolkes - - - -		iiij^d^
Peyd for 3 loades of coales to ye Pesthouse - - - - - - -	ij^s^	
Itm payd for drincke ye same nighte wee Removed wydow m^r^shall to ye Pesthouse - - - - -		vij^d^

* There are three more payments to this couple.
† There are two more payments to this couple.
‡ He was buried at Collegiate Church, 12th February.

Itm payd to two for helping to beare Anne Bibbye to ye churche* - -		viiij^{d}
— payd for coales to ye Pesthouse -		xvj^{d}
— p^{d} to ye dressers for bearinge widow m^{r}shall and for goods to ye pesthouse - - - - - - -	viij^{s}	v^{d}
— pd to ye pesthouse and for ye wyndinge and buryenge of wydow m'shall -	x^{s}	v^{d}
— pd the 20 of feb for coales to the Pesthouse - - - - -		xvj^{d}
Itm to those at the Pesthouse - -	vij^{s}	
— for coales - - - - -		xvj^{d}
— paid for Mr ffoxe pte of the Rente of ye Pesthouse - - - -	iij^{s}	iiij^{d}
— payde to Wylde - - - -		vj^{d}
— payde . . . for ye pest howse -	iiij^{s}	ix^{d}
— paid to John Dawber and his wyffe -	iiij^{s}	viij^{d}
— payd for writing a note to gyve warninge for vnlawfull assembles -		ij^{d}
— payd for attendinge of M'shalls boyes		xii^{d}
— layd out and lent to Marshall ssonnes	ij^{s}	
— giu' in turves and candles ij^{d} - -		iij^{d}

(*Manchester Constables' Accounts*, ii. 155-161).

This epidemic led to the passing of an order of the court leet, 24th April, 1606, by which "Assistantes to the Constables to have the care of all those inhabitants of this towne who have recourse to any places suspected to be infected or that come from any places infected" were appointed (*Manchester Court Leet Records*).

In 1608 about fourteen persons died in Chester of the plague which began at the "Talbot."

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* Buried 31st January.

There was "a taxation layd by the Justices of the Peace, Constables of Manchester and other the Inhabytance" which was collected weekly for the relief of the poor infected and suspected. This document, dated 16th May, 1608, is the only reference to the existence or suspicion of plague in that year.

1610. Many died of the plague in Chester this year (Ormerod, vol. i., p. 239).

In this year a lay of half a fifteenth was charged upon townships in East Lancashire "to the relief of the infected of the Plague in the several towns of Liverpool, Uxton [Euxton], and others" (*Shuttleworth Accounts*).

1613. Under date 8th April, 1613, there is passing reference to "ye last sickens" in the *Manchester Court Leet Records.*

1623. The Blackburn parish registers for the year 1623 prove a great mortality in that year. The average number of burials yearly at Blackburn Parish Church at this period was about one hundred and ten to one hundred and twenty (one hundred and twenty-two in 1625), but in 1623 (from January, 1622-3, to December, 1623) there are as many as four hundred and ten burials; being about three hundred in excess. The baptisms for the year were one hundred and thirty-three, which at the rate of thirty-three births to one thousand living persons would give a population for the town and townships near of about four thousand. The mortality was at its highest in the last three months of 1623: sixty corpses were buried in October, fifty-five in November, sixty-six in December. Four burials took place on Christmas eve

and five on Christmas day. Numerous members of the families of the local gentry died, as well as of the townsfolk, traders, and cottagers (Abram).

1623. Bolton is said to have lost one-third of its inhabitants. The number of burials in the parish churchyard was nearly five hundred (Abram).

1623. The Rochdale parish register records a great mortality from August, 1623, to February, 1623-4. Nothing is said as to the cause. The registers show that in 1622 there were two hundred and fifteen christenings, two hundred and one burials, and thirty-five weddings. During the year 1623 no less than five hundred and eighty-seven people were buried at the parish church, of whom close upon five hundred died between the 1st July and the end of February. Early in 1624 the sickness left the district; the burials in that year were only one hundred and fifty (Fishwick's *Rochdale*, p. 54).

1625. At Malpas in 1625 the plague was very virulent. The entries begin with the deaths of Thomas Jefferie, servant; Thomas Dawson, of Bradley; and Richard Dawson, his son, buried in the nights of the 10th and 13th of August; after which occurs the name of Ralph Dawson, also son of Thomas, who "came from London about the 25th July last past, and being sicke of the plague died in his father's howse, and infected the saide howse, and was buryed, as was reported, neare unto his father's howse." Then follow the burials of Thomas Dawson, August 15th, at three o'clock after midnight; Elizabeth, his daughter, August 20th; and Annie, his wife, the same day. Then comes the pathetic

record that "Richard Dawson, brother to the above-named Thomas Dawson, of Bradley, being sicke of the plague, and perceyveing he must die at yt time, arose out of his bed, and made his grave, and caused his nefew, John Dawson, to cast strawe into the grave, w'ch was not farre from the howse, and went and layd him down in the sayd grave, and caused clothes to be layd uppon, and so dep'ted out of this world; this he did because he was a strong man, and heavier than his said nefew and another wench were able to bury. He died about the XXIVth of August. Thus much was I credibly tould he did 1625. . . . John Dawson, sonne of the above-mentioned Thomas, came unto his father when his father sent for him, being sicke, and haveyng layd him down in a dich, died in it the XXIXth day of August, 1625, in the night. Rose Smyth, servant of the above-named Thomas Dawson, and the last of yt household, died of plague and was buried by Wm. Cooke, the Vth daye of September, 1625, near unto the saide howse."

Another entry shows that the plague continued its ravages to the middle of October, 1625: "9th Oct. Mawde, the wyfe of Henry Clutton. Her husband and sister buried her. A childe of Henry Clutton's, that died, as it is thought, of plague, buried XIIIIth daye of October, 1625. Its aunt and another wench buried it. Nihil pro eccl'ia."

The manner in which the local authorities dealt with an expected invasion of the plague is shown in the following extracts from the *Court Leet Records*:—

October 6th, 1625. "The Jurye consideringe the greate danger wch may ensue by resort of strangers and bringinge in of wares from infected places. Therefore the Jurye doe order that there shalbee sufficient ward and watche kept within this Towne And that the constables shall apoint to

keepe ward such householders as they in theire discrecons shall thincke fittinge and that eũie ꝑson refuseinge to keepe ward in his own ꝑson or some sufficient ꝑson as he will answere for, haveinge a days warninge shall forfeit for eũie such refuseing v^{s}

"And further the Jurye doe order that there shalbee a taxe or lay of some sufficient soīne or soīnes of money to hire sufficient men to keepe watche in the night vntill such time as further course shalbee taken by the steward Constables and sixe of this Jurye."

"The Jurye of this present Leete duelie consideringe the great perell of theis contagious tymes And the fearefull miseries whervnto the poore inhabitants of this towne are like to be exposed if Almightie god doe send the plague of pestilence amongst is earnestlie desireinge (if it bee gods good will) to pr'ent the first or to the latter by good order to give some ease (if god doe soe afflict vs) have thought fitt to nominate and doe hereby order and apoint theis twelve p'sons whose names are herevnder written to be aydinge and assistant to the Constables and to doe in theire seũall devisions as followeth.

"ffirst that once in eũie weeke (at the least) either jointlie or seũallie in theire seũall devisions enquirie shalbee made (by them the said officers) in eũie house and familye what p'sons or goods are intertayned to lodge inhabite or bee in the said house or familye and if it shall appeare that any such p'son or p'sons or other thinge bee intertayned or received as may bee p'illous or noysome vnto this towne the same p^{r}sentlie to be made knoune vnto the Constables and such speedie course to bee taken for the removeale of the said danger either by imprisonm^{t} of the partye giveinge such intertaynem^{t} or by shuttinge vp his doores or otherwise as by lawe

or direcc'ons from the Judges of the Assizes or the Justices of the peace is p'mitted.

"Yt is further ordered that the said officers shall once eũie three months at the least in theire seũall devisions make due inquirie howe many familyes of poore labouringe people is wthin theire seuerall devisions, by whom such famelies are set to worke and if any in the famelie have abilitie of bodye and not whereon to worke. The same ꝑson to be certefied by name and to what familey the same ꝑson (hee or shee) Doth belonge Together also with the names of such men of wealth and habilitie wthin the said devisions as are fitt to bee charged wth the imploym^{t} and reliefe of the said able poore (the first enquirie and certificate to bee taken and made to the Churchwardens for the time beinge within 14 dayes next ensueinge.

"Theis officers are to continue in theire said office vntill the next Leete and so many more are then to be chosen to succeed in this office and that none shall refuse the said office or bee necligent sub pã v^{s}

"The officers names and the severall diuitions given them in charge.

"Smithidore, Deansgate Hudsons land and so to Salford bridge	Francis Mosley John Gee Raphe Cheetam
"St Mariegate Marketstid cum Marketstidlane ffleshbords Conditt and Mealegate	Geffrey Croxton Lawrence Owen Roger Bowringe
"Withengreave Hanginge ditch Toad lane et ffenelstreete	Thomas Lancashire Charles Costeer Roger Worthington
"Milngate Huntsbanke Church yrd side cum Halfe streete	Richard Chorlton John Barlowe Henry Keley."

The following entries from the *Manchester Constables' Accounts* (vol i., p. 154, *et seq.*) refer to the plague:—

14 Oct 1624 to 5 Oct 1625. p^{d} and given the abousaid seventeene shillings ffower pence vnto william Scholes in recompence for his paynes taken in buryinge off his sonne and towords the losse off the clothes wch weare buryed with him wch is allowed him p the consent off the Jury - - - - - - - 17^{s} 4^{d}

13 Dec 1625. Rēd of a booke for a laye Made of williame Crampton and Thomas woffenden Misegathe^{r}ars for contynveinge of the watche synce Micheallmase last as maye appeaire by an order made in the courte booke at the leete in october 1625 the sō - 07.02.02

19 Oct. 1625. p^{d} a Messenger the Constables of Stoppord sent to o^{r} Constables to Cartiefie against infectiouse goods in xij packes newlie comne from London and thoe: it were night were put out of ye towne - - - - 00.6

25 Feb 1625-6. By Vertewe of An order Made at oure Courte Leet Houlden in octob^{r} aō 1625 John Beswicke Constable last yeare p^{d} Six mē toe watche sixpence a night everay mā And p^{d} vi^{d} to the depewtie to wa^{r}ne them and oftentymes to goe toe se them keepe trewe watch beginninge the xjth daye of November and contynveinge till the xxth December next ffolloweinge wch came toe the some of - - - - 03.05.4

1630-1. The Kirkham parish book records: "This year (1630-1) was a great Plague in Kirkham, in which the more part of the people of the town died thereof. It began about the 25th July, and continued vehemently until Martinmas, but was not clear of it before Lent; and divers towns of the parish was infected with it, and many died thereof out of them, as Treales, Newton, Grenall, Estbrick, Thistleton. The great mortality was in the year 1631; 304 died that year, and were buried at Kirkham, of whom 193 died in the months of August and September."

The records of the sworn men contains the following entries in 1632:—

> Given to the preacher that went from church to church at the request of vicar and 30 men.
>
> Paid for perfuming the church xxx^{s}
>
> „ for carrying the rushes out of the church in the sickness time v^{s}
>
> Spent at Hambleton the day of thanksgiving after sickness ii^{s} (Fishwick's *Kirkham*, 97, 98).

The Preston Guild order book contains this record: "*Sexto et Septimo Caroli R R's.* The great Sickness of the Plague of Pestilence, wherein the number of Eleven Hundred p'sons and upwards died within the town and p'ish [parish] of Preston, began about the tenth day of November, in anno 1630, and continued the space of one whole yeare nexte after. Will'm Preston, Maior" (Abram's *Memorials of the Preston Guilds*, p. 42).

The accounts record several items paid by the Manchester constables "for Preston." Mr. Earwaker conjectures that they refer to an outbreak of the plague in that town (*Constables' Accounts*, i. 256).

In 1630 £53 was gathered at Chester for the relief of Preston and other places afflicted with the plague, and £43 the year following, the plague increasing in Manchester, Wrexham, Shrewsbury, &c., but Cheshire is stated to have escaped altogether (Ormerod, vol. i., p. 240).

In consequence of the prevalence of the plague in neighbouring shires, counties, and towns, Viscount Cholmondeley issued a proclamation, dated 13th August, 1631, prohibiting "all man. [manner] of p'sons. fforens [foreigners] strang[s] and others that lyve in anye remote shires counties or townes, or in or neere to any place infected that they and eu'y of them abstaine and forbeare to come vnto the said towne and faire for the space of fyve dayes, to wytt the faire daye and foure dayes nexte after" (Hall, p. 129).

Manchester had a narrow escape, for Hollinworth records) "Anno 1631. The Lord sent his destroying angell into an inne in Manchester, on which died Richard Meriot and his wife, the master and dame of the house, and all that were in it, or went into it, for certaine weekes together, till, at the last, they burned or buried all the goods in the house; and yet, God in midst of judjement did remember mercy, for no person else was that yeare touched with the infection."

The following entries in the *Constables' Accounts* show that some persons suspected of infection were isolated in the wooden houses provided for the purpose:—

24 July. Itm p[d] and giuen to them the s[d] ffornace [Tho.] [Geo.] Allen &c. [8 persons] to cause them to retorne whence they Came because they were Suspected to haue beene in Some Infected place - - - - - 01.00.0

15 Oct. Rec^{d} of Robertt Taylo^{r} of ouldam by an order from the Bench towards the mayntenance of his wiffe att the cabbins - - - - - - - 03.06.8

27. Rec^{d} of mr Jo. Gilliam ffor monie wch was restinge in his hands of the Taxe for the sicknes - - - - - - 05.16.5

R^{d} of the Mysgatherrers and by o^{r} selves, outt of the first laye, wch was by order of the bench for the releefe and watchinge of those att Cabbins as appeareth 21.11.11

20 Oct. 1631. P^{d} John Kempe for ꝑuition [provision] for Diet for ye people at Collihust and for watch and warde for 2 men for day and night to wit 21, 22, 23 Octob^{r} ye som of - - - - - 01.01.0

26 Oct. p^{d} John Kempe wch hee Disburseed for strawe and other nessessaries for people at Collihurst - - - - 00.10.3

29. p^{d} John Kempe for meate and drinke for v ꝑsons at Collihurst for 7 dayes to wit from 24 till 31 of Octob^{r} 4^{s} 2^{d} day is - - - - - - - - 01.09.2

There are very many entries either stated to be for the Collyhurst cabins, or probably so, as for coals, candles, firepot, meate and drinke, thread, turf, soap, &c. There are none later than January, 1631-2.

28 Jan. 1631-2. p^{d} Mr Robt Langlye for ye Rent of ye house for those that came from ye Cabbines - - - - 00.08.0

30 Mar 1631-2. R^{d} of the Cunstables of Salford by an order from the Bench wch they repaid backe of the monie w^{ch}

they have Rec^{d} aboue there ꝑportionable rate out of the greate taxe for the sicknes the some of - - - - 06.13.4

There are other references to this great tax. Collections were made for those infected at Preston, Manchester, and other places (Creighton, p. 527; *Hist. MSS. Comm.*, ii. 258).

In 1631 the plague broke out in Dalton and in Biggar, and in the Isle of Walney, and produced a dreadful mortality. It is recorded that "there died in Dalton of the plague three hundred and sixty, and in Walney, 120." The malady made its first appearance in July, and ceased about the Easter following. A mound of earth on the east side of the churchyard is supposed to point out the burial-place of the victims (Baines, vol. i., p. 648).

1640. An alarm of plague is evidenced by these entries in the *Manchester Constables' Accounts*:—

Nov. Ward was kept to prevent infected goods arriving.
7 Nov. It' p^{d} fr: gorton and his ptner for warding 3 dayes - - - - 3^{s}
It p^{d} Edw: Rausthorne and his ptner for wardinge 7 dayes at hyde Crosse - 7^{s}

1641. The second and more disastrous visitation occurred in the early winter of 1641, and, despite the precautions adopted by the inhabitants, its deadly influence soon spread:—

11 Nov. ffor eleaven days warding in Regard of the sickness then suspected neare Namptwich and In Newcastle 6^{d} a daie - - - - - - 00.05.6

27 Nov. paide to Jno. Bulckley, Ralph Brodhurst and Jno. Parnell ffor watching and warding 6 days and nights - 00.06.0

The infection was raging with fatal results about the county for some time before it reached Congleton, and in the year 1637 the following restrictive by-law was enacted under John Bradshaw, then mayor: "And in regarde that the dangers of the tymes, by reason of the Contagion of the Sicknes in neighbour contries, It beinge requisit that some good orders shoulde be made for p^r^vention as much as maie be of the approachinge danger which by God's grace and blessinge maie be the better prevented by due care taken in that behalfe. It is theirfore thought fitt and so ordered that no Inholder, Ale house Keeper, Victualler or other pson of this Towne whatsoever shall lodge, or receive into his or theire houses, anie carrier, maltster or other pson travellinge hither from Darbey, or from anie other place infected or suspected, and generally reported to be Infected whatsoever, or receive anie corne, graine, malte or other Commodity from anie comon carrier that shall not bring with him a sufficient certificate that the same malte, graine, or other comoditie came not from anie place Infected or suspected (as aforsaid) and make oathe conserninge the same, if he be theireunto required by suche as shalbe appoynted for that purpose upon payne of forfeyture for evrie such offence, Twentie shillings and that everie suche pson soe refusinge to take his oathe (as aforsaid) shall ymediatly be comitted to prison at the discrecion of the Maior and Justices, or anie of them, or otherwise with his horses and carriage (if he have anie) to be conveyed out of the Towne by the officers, warders or watchmen."

The tradition is that the infection was conveyed from London to this district (some accounts say to North Rode) in a box of wearing apparel. The sickness had reached the town a few days before Christmas, and attacked the family of one Laplove, several of whom soon became its victims.

1641 Dec 18. to Wm. Hollinshed ffor watching Laploves house too dayes and nights 2^{s} the sickness there appearing

pd. for Inkle to lye the Ded corpes att Laploves 8^{d} and for cording 4^{d} - - 00.01.0

ffor a Ladder to carrie the corpse to ye grave 00.00.10

The plague spread from house to house, carrying off whole families, so that the town became deserted, and the streets were overgrown with grass. None ventured abroad but those who, reckless of life, staggered from cabin to cabin laden with the dead, which were "either put naked into a carte or else wrapped round with a windinge sheet and then drawn to ye grave dug either in ye Church yarde or in another place, and there put in ande covered with earth without sayinge anye ceremonye whatever."

Here are two grim entries:—

Dec 28. to James Ingam for a peare of wheeles and Axle trees to Draw ye Ded to ye Grave - - - - 01.09.0

Dec 28. to Adam Okes ffor a whit nagg to draw the corps to Astbry (Astbury) - 1.08.0

To stay the contagion every ingenious method was adopted, and those exchanging money for goods dropped their coins into water before the other party would handle it. By means of tongs articles were held at arm's length

in the fire, and then placed on the ground for the customer to take up. There are still "plague stones," that is, cubical blocks with hollowed tops to fill with water for change of money, to be seen at some of the outlets of the borough; notably one near Congleton Edge. Within the last half century a dwarf stone cross stood near Dairy Brook, in Astbury, to mark the spot where the temporary market was held during the plague period. On occasion of the "intake" of the roadside waste, this cross was removed to a neighbouring gentleman's garden about forty years ago.

During the two years the scourge lasted, the rulers of the town seem to have exerted every effort for the good of the inhabitants, helping from the public funds as far as lay in their power. A note shows how the Corporation paid "ffor too loads of coales to boyle clothes in Croslidge to prevent Danger of future Infecon," and purchased "pitch and frankincense to purge infected houses." How the poor starving inhabitants, driven desperate by hunger and suffering, clamoured for bread is shown in the accounts, where the mayor enters in his own name sums of money "disbursed amongst the unthankfull poore," and again, "more by mysealfe at odd times amongst the clamorouse poore." In another note is the following: "Rec^{d} ffro Wm. Lord Brereton 60^{tie} loaves of breade to distribute amongst the poore." Notwithstanding the town's distress, it was compelled to provide for a small band of soldiers. A larger complement was threatened but not sent, because of the great poverty and destitution of the town.

Further extracts from the town accounts show how the plague was dealt with:—

1641 Dec 17. to Randle Poynton ffor watching the billeted soldiers - - 00.00.8

Dec 19. to Jno Keene ffor money hee had Disburst for Inkle, cording and oth^{r} necessaris att the buriall of Alice Laplove and oth^{rs} - - - - 00.02.2

Dec 22. ffor Coales to the Cabins 5^{d}, to little Bess for 5 days attendance to the people confined in houses and Cabins 1/6 - - - - - - - - 00.01.11

Dec 22. to Wm. Hollenshed ffor reliefe ffor those of Moodie Street - - 00.03.5

Dec 24 to Roger Slater ffor too dayes allowance in Crosslidge - - - 00.04.2

1641, Dec 24. pd. ffor one lood of coales to the watchmen in Moodie street - 00.00.9

Dec 27. to ffrank Stubbs, the burier, ffor one weekes paie - - - - 00.07.0

Dec 28. to little Bess for a boll of Lickorise and wyne vinegar - - - - 00.01.0

Dec 28. to John Leake to buy shott and pouth^{r} to Kill doggs for fear of Infeccon spreading by ym - - - - 00.00.10

Dec 28. to Laploves little girle in her weakness - - - - - - 00.00.2

Dec 29. more for the allowance of those Shutt upp in moodie streete 3 days - 00.10.3

1642 July 23. Jno Ameson for Killing Wm Newtons Catt at the death of his sonn feareing the infeccon - - - - 00.00.4

It may be mentioned in passing that Laplove and all his family, with the exception of one little girl, appear to have died.*

* By the Astbury register five Laploves appear to have been buried in two days.

A story is told of a stricken burgess, who, feeling his dissolution approach, besought the neighbours for a cord which he could affix to his body, so that when dead it might be dragged out and buried. This was done, and eventually the dead cart, with its ghastly attendants on their nocturnal rounds, halted at the infected house. Finding all quiet, and concluding the man was dead, they attempted to drag the body from its loathsome habitation. Their efforts, however, were vain; pull as they might the rope refused to yield. Curious to learn the cause of this obstruction they entered the place, where, by the dim light of their torches, they found that the dying man, either by ghastly intention or unconscious chance, had attached the rope to the proverbial brank-hook in the fireplace, the body lying by itself in another part of the room (Head's *Congleton*, pp. 71-75).

"The eye," the late Mr. J. E. Bailey says, "dwells with most tenderness upon numerous payments made to an active woman of diminutive stature, or it may be a young girl, named 'Little Bess,' who remained faithful to her duty of nursing the plague-stricken when left to die. The money was given to Little Bess for wages and for purchasing necessaries for the sick or the dead. 'Paid Little Bess, for keeping Mary Houlden's boy, 6s. 8d.' 'Paid to Little Bess her quarters wages, 6s. 8d.' 'Bestowed upon Little Bess her mother in the time of her sickness, 6d.' 'Bestowed to buy Little Bess's mother a winding-sheet, 2s. 6d.' 'Paid to Little Bess for three days' serving of the infected, 1s.' 'To Little Bess for one week's pay for attendance to the cabins, 2s. 4d.' The cabins were the places to which the infected were removed. There are other payments to her at various times for balls of liquorice, wine vinegar, candles, pitch, frankincense, &c. Evidence is afforded that

her ministrations were subsequently extended to wounded soldiers. It is interesting to meet in one entry with her name, which was Elizabeth Smith, otherwise 'Lancashire Bess'" (*Papers of the Literary Club*, vol. vi., p. 227).

1645. Pestilence again visited Manchester in 1645, and by an ordinance of Parliament dated December 9th, 1645, it appears that it had raged with such violence that for many months none had been permitted to come in or go out of the town. Its effects had been so dreadful that the ordinance says, "Most of the inhabitants living upon trade, are not only ruined in their estates, but many families are like to perish for want, who cannot sufficiently be relieved by that miserably wasted country." In relief of their distressed situation a collection, by order of Parliament, was made for the poor of Manchester in all the churches and chapels of London and Westminster, the receipts of which were directed to be transmitted to Mr. John Hartley, of Manchester. The following tabular statement of monthly and sometimes daily funerals, extracted from the registers of the Collegiate Church, will show the ravages of this epidemic:—

BURIALS.

1644.	October	21	1645.	October	112
	November	38		November	49
	December	28		December	23
	January	18		January	11
	February	22		February	28
1645.	March	20	1646.	March	14
	April	24		April	12
	May	61		May	5
	June	135		June	10
	July	172		July	8
	Angust	310		August	12
	September	266		September	6

The number of funerals on particular days shows how deadly were the results:—

1645,	August 9th	19	funerals.
,,	,, 22nd	20	,,
,,	,, 28th	18	,,
,,	September 2nd	28	,,

There is a memorandum made in August: "There was no more Christenings in this month [there had been only one] by reason of the extremitie of the sicknesse." The remark is made in September that: "The same reason is to bee given in respect to this month." In October we are told: "The extremitie of the sicknesse was the cause why baptisme was altogeather deferred this whole moneth." November 11th, 1645: "Alice, daughter to James Bradshaw, of Manchester, bap. att Chorlton in the sicknes tyme." In the marriage register for September is this remark: "There was not anie at all by reasonn of the sicknesse was soe greate."

The Rev. Adam Martindale, in his *Autobiography*, has this anecdote of his mother-in-law: "A publick fast-day was held at Blackley-Chappell on the behalfe of poore Manchester; the place of reception being very strait for so great a congregation, this good woman and another, who was also a fashionable person, had but one seate betweene them, so they sometimes stood and sometimes sate in the same seate by turns, and at night the other woman died of the plague; which I have heard my mother-in-law say never put her into any fright, but being satisfied she was in her way of duty she confidently cast herself on God's protection, and was accordingly preserved" (p. 63).

The following entries in the *Constables' Accounts* illustrate this epidemic:—

Nov 22. Rec^{d} frō ye Countie in ye tyme of the visitation for wch wee haue giuen an accompte to ye Justices - - 918.00.00
July 11 1645. pd souldiers for goinge to Collihurst to reforme disorders there - 00.02.00

Mr. Earwaker thinks that there must have been some disturbances at the plague cabins, which he supposes were then in use.

Sept 26. p^{d} to Doctor Smith for his charges to London and a free guift - - 04.00.00
p^{d} Doctor Smith for pte of his wages for his seruice in ye tyme of visitac̃on - 39.00.00
Dec 16. p^{d} Tho Minshull for apothecarie stuffe for ye townes seruice - - 06.02.06
Feb 14 1645-6. p^{d} Roger Hadocke for gatheringe vp ye Counties money for our infected poore - - - - 05.01.00
p^{d} that was charged vpon the towne in ye visitac̃on - - - - - - 32.09.03

Amongst those who suffered most from this visitation was the family of John Radcliffe of the Pool, a moated hall, the site of which is indicated by the name of Pool Fold. Two of his children, William and Mary, were buried on the 13th June, 1645, and of the five children he names in his will all but the youngest, Sarah, were buried within the next fortnight. His will is dated 19th June, and is written entirely in the testator's own hand, even the witnesses to this document not daring to come nearer to the infected house than "the west side of the poole." From this position "they saw and heard" the plague-stricken man "signe seale and publish the same" in their presence, but separated from them by

the width of the moat or pool. John Radcliffe was buried at the Collegiate Church on 28th June, his only surviving son and heir on 30th June; his younger daughter, Margaret, on 27th June; his eldest daughter, Anne, on 1st July. His youngest daughter, Sarah, became her father's sole heiress, and carried his estates into the family of Alexander of Manchester. She was at the time of the plague only three years of age, and was the only survivor of a family of eleven children born between 1627 and 1642.

1646. On the sides of the hills, near the Macclesfield crosses, are several gravestones of people who died of plague. Some stones are in the neighbourhood of the Bow Stone Gate, and others higher on the hill. Dr. Ormerod copied the two following inscriptions from stones on the side of the hill below the Bow Stone:—

John Hampson and his wife
and three children left this life
1646.

Think it not strange our bones ly here,
Thine may ly thou knowest not where.
ELIZABETH HAMPSON.

1647. Chester, which was held for the king, after a siege of twenty weeks, in the latter part of which there was famine in the city, surrendered to the Parliamentary army 3rd February, 1646, and in the following year was visited by the plague. Between June 22nd, 1647, and April 20th, 1648, two thousand and ninety-nine are stated to have died. Trade was at a standstill, and cabins for the plague-stricken were erected outside the city (Creighton, p. 564; *Historical MSS. Commission*, iv. 339).

In 1647 the Liverpool people were alarmed, and under date of 12th June, 1647, it was "ordered that strict wach

shal be kept by the townesmen because of the rumour of sicknes to be begune in Warrington."

So at Manchester the *Constables' Accounts* show that precautions were taken to prevent ingress to the town of those who were thought still to be infected. Watch and ward was kept for this purpose:—

Feb 25 1646-7. Rec^{d} of Mr. Smith Phissition for bottles and stuffe Deliu^{red} him wch was left after ye sicknesse - - 01.00.0

July 31. pd. Tho: Bradshawe for bringing George Beuinton backe to Midlewich who came before hee was thought free from danger - - - - - - 0.03.0

Aug 20. pd. for waches and wards scince Michlmas for feare of Infection - - 00.14.6

pd. James Worthington and Tho Walworke, Raph Worsley and Richard Halle for warde for feare of infection - - 00.02.0

pd. Roger Haydocke for monie oweinge him scince ye sicknesse tyme for Collecting Monies for Manch^{r} - - - - 01.04.6

pd. John Rollinson for his charges to Chester wth Mr. Hen. Neild to bringe ye Monies colected for theire reliefe* - 00.06.6

1647 Aug 20. p^{d} 2 men for wachinge James Worthington att Townse end when hee came from Chester - - - - 00.01.0

pd. Robt Hill 20^{s} wch hee lent ye Towne Deliurd James Johnson begininge of ye sickenesse - - - - - - 01.00.0

p^{d} James Lightbowne lent Towne at same tyme - - - - - - - 01.00.0

* The Chester people were suffering from the plague.

"The plague began in Wistaston, beinge a little pishe of one townseship, not twoe myles from Namptwiche, a little after midsom[r] 1647, and conty'ued about nyne weekes; in w[ch] space theire dyed xxvj p'sons. The same began in the howse of widowe Scott, a bleacher of clothes." This is quoted from the Malbon MS., by Mr. Hall, in his *Nantwich*, 188.

1648. A plague and pestilence lent their aid in aggravation of the horrors of civil war in Liverpool. "The Portmoot court which should have been held after Christmas 1647, was deferred and put off by reason of the sickness and infection happening in certain houses in the Chapel Street, which, through the blessing of God—great care being taken and much cost bestowed in building of cabins and removing the said families forth of the town into the said cabins—it ceased in two months' time, with the death of about eight or nine persons of mean quality" (Picton's *Memorials*, vol. i., p. 104).

Under date of February 14th, 1648, "It is this day ordered by Mr. Maior, the Aldermen and Coñon Councell assembled, that the p'sons shutt up in their howses within this towne, upon the suspition of the sicknes and infeccon, may tomorrow be sett at lib'tie, and the gards taken offe vpon condicon they first shew themselves unto the officers appoynted for p'vyding for the poore, that they are all in health. W[ch] was donne accordingly, praised be God for his m'cie in o[r] speedie delivrance" (Picton, p. 193).

The following year a return was apprehended.

1649, February 9th: "Ordered that in regard the towne is a garrison, and y[e] sicknes dangerously dis-

persed; the abundance of poore, with the assistance of the Governor and soldiers shalbe kept out" (Picton).

1650. In the parish register of Cockerham, near Lancaster, is an entry, dated July, 1650: "The names of those that dyed of the infection in Cockerham: 21 dyed in July, of whom 11 were of the family of Braid: 34 in August, among whom was the reverend Thomas Smith, Vicar; 5 in September, and 4 in October, the last of whom died on the 8th, and here the Plague ceased" (*History of Lancaster*, ii. 509).

It is stated in some works that another visitation of the plague passed over Liverpool in 1650, by which two hundred of the inhabitants were carried off, who were buried in Sick Man's Lane, now Addison Street. Sir James Picton was unable to find any contemporary authority confirmative of the statement (Picton, i. 104).

Apprehensions of danger are shown in these orders: 1650, April 2nd. "Whereas it is certainly reported, that the sicknes in Dubline, wch by reason of the intercourse from thence may prove dangerous to this towne; it is therefore ord'red, that all owners and passengers comeing from thence shalbe restrained and debarred from comeing into this towne unless they cann make oath that they have not beene in anie infected place, nor brought over anie infected goods or passing^{rs} from thence, and be allowed of by Mr. Maior; and a Warrant to be drawn up for ye Guard to examine all passing^{rs} comeing from thence, until they be sworne and examined, wch was donne accordingly." Again, on the 16th June, 1650, "It is alsoe agreed that the p'sons restrained are to be admitted to come into the towne, and if hereafter anie shal p'sume to goe to Dubline or anie other place infected, they shalbe restrained from comeing on shore."

1651, October 8th. The infection having returned, "It is ordred, that the Ballives shalbe freed from the collecting of the fynes because of the p'sent condicōn of the towne in regard of the infeccōn." October 25th. "At an Assembly etc, it was p'pounded concerning the setting at lib'tie of Mrs. Chambers and Balive Sturzaker, who have been seaven weeks confyned for suspition of the sicknes. It is ordred that they may have lib'tie to walk to the water syde, but are to sequester themselves from companie, and at the seacond or third dayes of January to bee free and at lib'tie, if nothing hapen but wel in ye meane tyme; also that Ball. Sturzaker may have lib'tie in the night tyme to come up to his shop, and to use what meanes hee pleases for clensing it. And John Lunte to continue in his howse for a forthnight."

An epidemic broke out in 1651 on the seaside of Cheshire, Lancashire, and North Wales. Chester was comparatively free, but the neighbouring towns and villages were less fortunate, and eighty and one hundred were sick at a time in small villages, as at Stanney, Dunham-on-the-Hill, Norton, &c. (Creighton, p. 567, 572).

1652. At Liverpool, January 14th, it was "Ord^{d} That the Schoolm^{r} shall have his whole q^{rs} wages notwithstandyng his discontinuance of teaching by reason of the sicknes."

"Ord^{d} That Mr. William Williamson shall goe to Wigan, concerning the ley to be collected for ye poore and Infected, and to solizit the Justices of Peace for ye furtherance of the payment thereof" (Picton).

1652. On July 8th Thomas Wharton writes from Kirkdale to Edward Moore as to the heavy mortality at

Bootle: "There was a boy at widow Robinson's died upon Saturday in Whitson week, and upon the Wednesday before he was sawying at the steward Worsley's house with his wrights. The boy and the steward's man slept together in Worsley's barn; towards night the boy was not well, and could work no longer. All this John Wiggan of Kirkdale did see. Next John Birch died, and four of his children—all are dead but his wife. At John Robinson's one child and his wife died last week, and upon Wednesday last two children more died; and it was thought by the constable of Bootle that he would be dead before this day at night. Upon Wednesday at night last, at James Pye's, there died two, his son and daughter; and a servant of Thomas Doubie's is dead and it is this day broken forth in Bridge's as we hear."

In the *Lancashire Royalist Composition Papers* (first series, vol. lxxx., No. 2,526, fols. 359, &c.), the petition of John Ackers, of Whiston, mentions that his great-uncle, William Ackers, died September, 1652; that Peter Ackers, son and heir-apparent of the said William, to whom the estate immediately descended, died about October, 1652, leaving no issue, his heir-at-law being petitioner's father, William Ackers. It also showed that petitioner's father also died in or about October, 1652 "(all of them dying of the sore visitation of the plague)" (Ed. by Stanning, Rec. Soc., xxiv., p. 9). A writer in *Notes and Queries* (July 14th, 1894, p. 40) asks if this was the true plague, or some kind of malignant fever? "There seems to be," it says, "no certain authority for stating that the true plague ravaged this country between 1650 and 1665."

1653. The Liverpool Corporation records show that on June 9th, 1653, it was "ordered that Capt. Thomas

Croft shall have 3^{li} paid him by ye Balives forth of ye towne's stock, in lew and consideracon of his howse and lands wch was spoyled by ye infected p'sons being put there in ye time of God's vizitacōn of ye sicknes in this towne" (Picton, p. 195).

1654. On May 10th, 16th, and 18th, 1654, William Gaskin, Thomas Gaskin, Ellen Gaskin, Thomas Gaskin, jun., and Anne Gaskin, of Tarvin, died of the plague. There are no further notices of the spreading of the contagion.

Mrs. Venables writes in her diary under this year: "Then was the Plague broken out in Chester and I was removed with my family to my dear Cousin Egertons" (Chetham Society, vol. lxxxiii., p. 27).

1661. There appears to have been an apprehension of a visit of the plague in 1661. The Rev. Henry Newcome writes in his "Diary," under date 4th November, 1661: "Wee had some discourse about the plague. Judith Dodson buried her husband and 5 children of it and yet escaped hers: Shall I ever forget how ye L^{d} delivered my family ye last yeare. Caleb told a dolefull story how 3 in a bedd said, give us a little drinke or 1^{d} worth of drinke will serve us all while we live." And he refers later to the "sad storys they told us about ye plague w^{n} it was in this towne."

1665. The *London Gazette*, on 11th December, 1665, reports: "Wigan in Lancashire, Dec. 6. This town was startled at the Death of a Woman, who was found early in the morning before the dore of a poor Cottage in the Highway, within the limits of the Corporation. The Mayor of this Town was very industrious to find the cause of it, and upon the examination of three persons,

that came with her into the town from Ireland, and many notorious circumstances, it appears that she was clear from any infection, and that being with child, to avoid the shame among her friends, who are of good fashion, and live not many miles from this place, she destroyed herself by poison" (cited in *Palatine Note-Book*, iii. 72). Although the above proved not to be a case of fatality by the plague, yet the great alarm of the townsfolk of Wigan on hearing of the poor woman's sudden death, and the close inquiry of the mayor into the death, suggest, in Mr. Abram's opinion, that the plague must have been present in these parts of England in the latter part of that year (1665).

At Manchester there appears to have been some apprehension for at the court leet, 3rd October, 1665, "the Jurie doth order that all former good Orders made for the benefite of the towne shall bee putt in Execution and that the Steward and Burrowreeve and Constables are desired to see itt effected Alsoe that Order for the Infection of the Plauge of Pestilence."

The Liverpool records again afford information of the presence of pestilence in Cheshire in 1665. On the 2nd November, a public meeting of the burgesses was convened by the mayor (Mr. Michael Tarleton), when it was resolved: "That upon consideration and apprehension of the spreading contagion of the plague in divers neighbouring towns in Cheshire and other parts, and of the great concourse of people usually from these parts all the time of the fairs kept in this town, it is generally voted, agreed, thought fit, and so ordered that the keeping of the fair here on St. Martin's Day next (November 11), the eve, and other usual days after here accustomably kept, shall on this present exigent of danger for this year be absolutely forborne and

forbidden by open publication and notice thereof in the open market the next market day." Sir James Picton observes that "as we have no record of any attack of the plague, it is to be presumed that these precautionary measures proved effectual."

A gravestone in the middle of a large field on the left-hand side of the road leading from Alderley Edge to Mobberley, and just before reaching the row of trees on Lindow Common, bears the letters E. S., and the date 1665. It is the only memento of the plague in Wilmslow parish. The following entry in the parish register explains it: "1665, July. The 17th day was buried E . . . Stonaw, at her owne house, shee beinge suspected to dye of the plague, she but comeing home the day before." In a note in a much later hand is added: "In a field near Smallwood House, now belonging to the Vicar of Knutsford. 1788."

Here it may be well to reproduce from Mr. Earwaker's *East Cheshire* the particulars of the aid given by the people of Stockport to London, when the capital was afflicted by the pestilence of 1665:—

"Collections made for relief of sufferers by the London plague, in Stockport:

"Collected at ffast 2nd Aug: 1665 2li 7s 0d [2.7.0] in tyme of the plague in London.

"Collected 6th Sept. at ffast 1li 7s 5d in tyme of the plague in London.

"Collected at the ffast 4th Oct in the tyme of the plague in London 1li 11s 1d

"Collected 10th Jan. for the releefe of the poore visitted people in London in the tyme of the plague the suīne of seven shillings and eleaven pence.

"Collected at the ffast for the plague at London 7th February 10s 3d

"Collected March 7th 1665 [1665-6] being ffast day for the plague at London 10s

"From this it would appear," observes Mr. Earwaker, "that between August, 1665, and March, 1666, no less than six separate days were set apart for prayer and fastings on account of the plague in London. The sufferings that Stockport had sustained no doubt influenced its inhabitants" (vol. i., p. 409).

The causes of the extinction of the plague in this country are to be sought in the general improvement in the social and sanitary condition of the people. There can be no doubt that the pestilence found powerful allies within the communities it decimated. There is still much to be done, but enormous progress has been made in the direction of making town life cleaner and healthier than it was in the "good old times."

THE OLDEST CHURCH IN LANCASHIRE.

BY MONSIGNOR ROBERT GRADWELL.

THE picturesque title page of that very interesting work, *Our Country Churches and Chapels*, by A. Hewitson, contains a view of the church at Stydd, described as the "oldest Lancashire church, founded in the twelfth century." So far as depends on him, Mr. Hewitson thus perpetuates what, with all respect to him, I cannot but look upon as a serious error in chronology. At the time when the work appeared I accepted the statement as true, and it has since been reproduced in works of greater pretentions. Enlarged knowledge and a closer acquaintance with old Lancashire churches have satisfied me that there is at least one older church in Lancashire, and that Stydd, venerable and quaint as it is, must acknowledge that it is a mere youngster as compared with the church at Overton, near Lancaster. Let us take Mr. Hewitson's own dates in his kindly account of his visit to Stydd.

He says (page 113): "It is supposed to have been erected during the reign of Stephen, between 1135 and 1154." . . . An old deed, bearing no date, says that

"Allan de Singleton, son of Richard, confirms to God and St. Saviour de sub Langrigh for the hospital there four acres of land in Dilewrhe." The highest antiquity thus claimed for this primitive specimen of church architecture is the twelfth century. All the decorative features are of the Norman style, the arches rounded, and adorned with the zigzag borders.

Now let us turn to the description of Overton given in Baines as edited by Mr. Harland. "It is a plain rectangular building, without buttresses, the walls of the old part being four feet or upwards in thickness. The stones are small, and, from the nature of the grit, appear to have been picked off the surface of the rock in the vicinity of the chapel before the art of working quarries was known, and to have been put in promiscuously without regard in the walling department to the thickness or parallelism of the course. From the solidity and compactness of the walls the mortar must have been in a liquid state, which, by slow drying and the effect of time, has now become harder than the rock itself. All these circumstances relative to the construction of the walls are so many corroborating proofs of great antiquity. The doorway is formed in a deep recession, and on account of the great thickness of the walls forms a small portal. It consists of three semi-circular arches springing from so many connecting columns. Both the columns and the circular parts have been highly ornamental. The chevron or zigzag is very conspicuous, and the vestiges of other figures may be seen. A label moulding also borders the arch. . . . From the exact conformity of the chapel in every respect to the Saxon style, it is not improbable that it is an erection anterior to the Norman Conquest" (Baines, ii., p. 580).

This description of the building points to a date even

earlier than that mentioned by Baines, viz., some time after the settlement of the Angles in north Lancashire. The great thickness of the walls and the absence of courses in the stonework suggest a British rather than a Saxon origin of the building. The Normans in the twelfth century found it a deserted ruin, but with more than customary consideration for existing buildings a wealthy person, probably a local baron, struck by its venerable and time-worn aspect, resolved on restoring it. He used the architecture of the time, and the Norman arch and the zigzag were freely used in adorning the rude and massive walls.

The chapel had been so long abandoned that the dedication of it was unknown to the barons and ecclesiastics of the time. They did not, however, presume to invent a new dedication, and Baines significantly says, "the patron saint is unknown." The folklore of the country has, however, retained the original dedication, and the farmers and peasants of the district will tell you that in olden times it was dedicated to St. Patrick. It was from a son of the soil that I learnt this old tradition. When he was a child on the southern bank of the Lune the old church of St. Patrick at Overton was often pointed out to him, and he was told that it had once been dedicated to that great saint. The very silence of Baines is eloquent in its testimony to the truth of what he heard.

St. Patrick's Chapel at Heysham is only a ruin, but St. Patrick's Church at Overton is still used for divine service. They both recall the far off time when the memory of St. Patrick's visit to Morecambe in 394 was fresh in the minds of men.

The church at Overton takes us back to the sixth or seventh century. When the Normans conquered

England it had long been a ruin. In the twelfth century it was restored with lavish ornament about the time when the Stydd Church came first into being. Had Mr. Hewitson at the time been as familiar with the old-world places about Heysham as he undoubtedly was with those in the neighbourhood of Preston, he would faithfully have set forth the claims of St. Patrick's Church at Overton to be the "Oldest Church in Lancashire."

PROCEEDINGS.

Friday, January 12th, 1894.

THE monthly meeting was held in Chetham Library, Mr. J. Holme Nicholson, M.A., presiding.

Dr. Renaud, F.S.A., exhibited a Jacobean mortar from a house in Mottram-in-Longdendale. It is inscribed in letters round the rim, "Fear God and honour the King," with date "1607," and the name of the proprietor, "H. Rile." "Ricard Hapton" is incised on the second line; on the third line, in inverted letters, "Bertus L." is carved, and "H. T." on one of the angles in letters the reverse of the former. On line four "Robertus Lee" and "Isbele Ford." Dr. Renaud has presented this mortar to the British Museum.

Mr. T. Oxley exhibited and described an ancient bronze ewer, and Mr. George C. Yates a mediæval bottle found at Lincoln and an iron stylus from North India.

Mr. Nathan Heywood placed on the table a statuette of the god Vishnu, in brown amethyst, and also a handsomely carved box made from Shakspere's celebrated mulberry tree and a photo of the cast of the poet's face.

Mr. Robert Langton handed round a drawing for examination, and said: It represents a piece of glass,

which was first brought into notice by Mr. F. W. Fairholt, F.S.A., some fifty years since. The late Mr. James O. Halliwell Phillipps, F.R.S., with whom I have had correspondence on this and other Shaksperean matters, wrote some six or seven years since: "The late Mr. Fairholt, one of the best judges in such matters that ever lived, was of a decided opinion that the glass is a genuine work of art of the Shaksperean period. If so it may be taken for granted that it is an authentic Stratford relic, for it is incredible that anyone should have pounced elsewhere upon a glass with the three desirable initials, brought it from a distance into the town, and then invented a New Place story, without a commercial or any other sort of intelligible object. But how came the piece of glass into the possession of the tenant of the birthplace? Mr. Fairholt's version of it was this. A relative of the late Mrs. Court, whose ancestor had been employed to pull down New Place, had saved this square of glass, but attached little value to it. She told her story simply, made no comments, and urged no belief." Mr. Halliwell Phillipps, then, believed this to be a genuine relic, and the late Mr. C. Roach Smith held a similar opinion, and thought it the most valuable memento of the great poet next to his signatures attached to his will. Where this interesting relic is now I cannot say, but it was in Mr. Halliwell Phillipps' collection of Shakspere rarities at his death. New Place (of one of whose mullioned windows the glass is supposed to have formed a part) was purchased by Shakspere early in 1597 for £60 (equivalent perhaps to more than £300 present value) of William Underhill. The house was built in the reign of Henry VII., and destroyed in 1759, by the Rev. Francis Gastrell, vicar of Frodsham, Cheshire, who had previously (1756)

cut down the famous mulberry tree for firewood. It is pleasant to add on the authority of Dyce that "Gastrell, having quarrelled with the magistrates about parochial assessments, quitted Stratford amidst the rage and execrations of the inhabitants." The device I exhibit was engraved (1847) in Fairholt's *Home of Shakspere*, and is copied direct, full size, from Mr. Fairholt's original drawing. The initials reticulated in a true lover's knot stand thus, W. A. S., for William and Ann Shakspere, and the date 1615 was the year before the poet's death. If then we accept the only evidence that is ever likely to be offered, and believe with the great authorities I have quoted that this is a genuine relic of the great Shakspere in his retirement, and that this frail memorial actually demonstrates the loving terms on which he was with his wife when he was so near his end, should we not also receive it as a most touching answer to the calumnies that have lately been current as to his supposed loose life with the dark lady of the Sonnets, and of that other silly and exploded scandal, his testamentary neglect of his wife?

Mr. George Esdaile read a short communication on the Round Table of the semi-legendary King Arthur.

A discussion took place on this paper, in which Dr. March and Messrs. Hughes, S. Andrew, and the Chairman took part.

Friday, January 26th, 1894.

The eleventh annual meeting was held in Chetham Library, Mr. J. Holme Nicholson presiding. There was a large attendance.

The Chairman read the annual report of the Council (see vol. xi., p. 189).

The report and a statement of accounts (read by Mr. T. Letherbrow) were adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. A. Taylor.

The election of officers resulted as follows:—

President:
The DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE.

Vice-Presidents:

W. E. A. AXON, F.R.S.L.	H. COLLEY MARCH, M.D., F.S.A.
Sir WM. CUNLIFFE BROOKS, Bart.	J. HOLME NICHOLSON, M.A.
Prof. W. BOYD DAWKINS, F.R.S.	CHARLES W. SUTTON.

Council:

SAMUEL ANDREW.	W. H. GUEST.
C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.	WILLIAM HARRISON.
H. T. CROFTON.	N. HEYWOOD.
J. P. EARWAKER, M.A., F.S.A.	T. CANN HUGHES, M.A.
GEORGE ESDAILE, C.E.	R. LANGTON.
Lieut.-Colonel FISHWICK, F.S.A.	Rev. E. F. LETTS, M.A.
Major GILBERT J. FRENCH.	ALBERT NICHOLSON.

GEORGE PEARSON.

Treasurer: THOMAS LETHERBROW.

Honorary Secretary: G. C. YATES, F.S.A.

Mr. Albert Nicholson called attention to the paragraph in the report with regard to the proposal to present a mace to the Manchester Corporation. At the conversazione in December, at which corporate insignia were exhibited, it was stated that Manchester was almost alone among corporations, great or small, in having no mace, and, in fact, having no insignia of any kind with the exception of the mayoral chain. The opinion was then very generally expressed that this was a matter which ought immediately to be put right. The members of the Antiquarian Society, it seemed to him, were the right persons to take the initiative, and he had accordingly brought the matter before the Council of the Society. A committee had been appointed, who were

now appealing for subscriptions, which would not be limited to members of the Society.

The following were elected members of the Society: Mr. and Mrs. J. Norbury, Mr. A. R. Scott, and Mr. John Warburton.

Friday, February 2nd, 1894.

The monthly meeting was held on February 2nd in the Chetham Library, Mr. C. W. Sutton presiding.

Mr. J. Pearson exhibited a collection of military and other medals, and read a short communication thereon.

Mr. C. T. Tallent-Bateman exhibited a number of interesting documents. These included a schedule of title deeds of the time of Charles I., relating to lands at Castleton, held originally by the Byron family as "farmers" of the Royal manor of Rochdale, and referring to numerous Lancashire families; a draft, settled by a famous Chancery counsel practising in the Duchy of Lancaster (Mr. Edward Chetham) in the time of Charles II., of a Chancery petition of the family of Lightboune concerning property at Blackley; a draft deed of the time of James II. referring to the same family and property, and an autograph of Thomas Case, once rector of Trinity Church, Salford, a member of the Assembly of Divines, who is mentioned in *Hudibras*.

Mr. S. Jackson exhibited a drawing of a perforated stone hammer, eleven inches long, found at Garstang.

Mr. T. Cann Hughes, M.A., exhibited a hymn book, compiled by John Hampson, printed at Chester, 1767. John Hampson was a native of Chowbent.

Mr. G. C. Yates, the Hon. Secretary, read a paper written by Mr. Thomas Roose, Bolton Abbey, on some implements and weapons from the Great Edge Settlement

on Extwistle Moor, Lancashire. Mr. Roose said that almost all our moorlands had from time to time yielded evidence of their having been occupied by early man, at a time when they were woods and forests that had long since disappeared. Anyone who had searched these moorlands for implements of flint and stone could not fail to have noticed in many instances the abundance of those relics, but more especially the way in which they were distributed. Scattered here and there, now a few chips, next an arrow or spear head, or perhaps a knife, one is often puzzled to account for them being so widely scattered, for wherever the peat has been eroded we are sure to find them. The chippings themselves suggest much that is interesting; that they are the refuse from the manufacture of implements is indisputable. But they lead us on to other problems less easily solved, for where the implements were manufactured would undoubtedly be located the rude huts of these primitive men. Judging from the abundance and general distribution of the chippings, the inhabitants must either have been very numerous, or their stay must have extended over a vast period of time. Mr. Roose named the site on which he discovered the implements in question "The Great Edge Settlement," doing so on the direct evidence furnished by the discovery. Referring to the mounted specimens exhibited, it would be noted that there was a carefully worked arrow head of the leaf type, and a fragment of another, barbed, but evidently broken in course of manufacture and cast aside, a small axe and another implement, seemingly well used, with two or more similar pieces in a handle and used as a weapon. Next would be noticed a large and well-formed knife, together with two scrapers, one of them worn smooth with handling, a two-edged implement, used probably

for skinning, one end had a finger place worked in it; this finger hold would be quite unnecessary in an ordinary scraper, but, used in skinning an animal, it would give the operator greater power over his work. Then there was the needle or borer, used in making holes (through which to pass the sinews) in the skins with which this primitive race would be clothed. A small core and portion of a pebble, together with the chippings and flakes of flint, go to prove that not only were the weapons used in the near vicinity, but manufactured on the spot. The presence of some good flakes of chert was most interesting, as it pointed to a time when the supply of flint failed and the neolithic men were driven to the necessity of using implements of chert. The absence of a hearth or burnt stones might be accounted for by the action of the denuding agents, which must be at a maximum in so exposed a situation. From evidence he had collected he was of opinion that the isolated position of the "finds," coupled with the fact that no other flints or chert were found in the entire length of that ridge, though the greater part of the peat had been eroded, and that some pieces of flint had been influenced by fire, pointed to the place having been a settlement of neolithic man.

Mr. Yates read a letter from Mr. Tattersall Wilkinson, of Swinden, near Burnley, referring to Mr. Roose's "find."

Mr. T. Cann Hughes, M.A., contributed the following paper on "The Misereres in Malpas and Gresford Churches:" On 26th December, 1892, I visited the fine old parish church of Malpas, in the sister county, and, after walking a mile up the hill through pretty scenery to the village, was welcomed at the rectory by the rector, the Hon. and Rev. William Trevor Kenyon,

M.A., who has contributed a valuable paper to the third volume of the new series of the *Transactions* of the Chester Archæological Society, on "Malpas Town, Parish, and Church," to which I am to some extent indebted in the remarks which follow. The rector first showed me his rectory, in which Bishop Reginald Heber, of Calcutta, was born, and whence he went to Wrexham, where he wrote his famous hymn, "From Greenland's icy mountains." He then conducted me to his beautiful church, and pointed out the many features of interest it contains. But I had taken the journey to Malpas for a special purpose (to inspect the carved misericords), and to this work we at length directed our attention. The stalls have originally been far more numerous; there remain, however, only three, which are arranged along the south wall of the chancel. They are of interest, but considerably worm-eaten. The first, which depicts a struggle between two soldiers armed, has been photographed by Mr. F. W. Farrimond, of Chester. The second example is a mermaid with a brush and comb. This subject was a favourite on misericords, and occurs at Chester and Worcester and also in Exeter Cathedral. The remaining example is a monster with a double body and one head; it is also found at Chester and several other places, and has been reproduced on the new north front of Westminster Abbey. On last bank holiday (26th December, 1893) I visited the fine Welsh border church of All Saints, at Gresford, and, by the courtesy of Archdeacon Howell, F.S.A., examined at leisure the handsome series of misericords there, of which Chancellor Parkins had sent me a brief account incorporated in my paper on the Chester misericords, which is printed in the recently issued part of the *Chester Archæological Journal*. I may describe shortly the elbows, which are almost

identical throughout the series. They depict angels in long flowing robes (in two cases in armour) and bearing shields, on which have doubtless once been the blazon of many an old Welsh border family. Two are animals. The following dimensions may be of interest to the ecclesiologist: (1) Height of seat from floor when seat down, 1 foot 10 inches; (2) height of top of bracket when seat is turned up, 2 feet 5 inches; (3) distance between elbows, 2 feet 2 inches; (4) length of seat, 10 inches; (5) length of bracket, 7½ inches; (6) width of seat, 9 inches; (7) depth of bracket, 5 inches; (8) thickness of seat, 1 inch. The seats are fastened on metal hinges, and not with wooden pivots as in many instances, *e.g.*, at Stowlangtoft, Suffolk. There are fourteen stalls in all, seven on each side of the chancel; three on each side are "returned," or face eastwards.

NORTH SIDE, BEGINNING EAST.

(1) This stall is plain, and has the appearance of having been cut away, as also the two supporters.

(2) The grotesque head in the central subject supports curious tracery which forms a pediment from which the bracket rises; the supporters here are gone.

(3) An angel with a shield in its hands; supporters lost.

(4) The wolf attacks a figure with a staff or other weapon, but the head is broken off, and this misericord has been badly treated; no supporters remain.

(5) This stall is fixed. I could feel no trace of any carving underneath.

(6) A woman riding on an elephant or other beast of burden; damaged; the supporters are Tudor roses.

(7) A winged lion rampant, with the head of an eagle,

stands between a unicorn and another animal too much mutilated for identification; the supporters are again floral.

SOUTH SIDE, BEGINNING EAST.

(1) Two men carry a comrade slung over a pole; a third walks behind them. This misericord is indecently designed, by no means an unfrequent occurrence in this class of adornment; the subject occurs in Bristol Cathedral. The supporters are pigs.

(2) A lion and another animal (broken) hold a fox in their paws. The left-hand supporter is formed by interlacement of the end of the bracket; the right hand floral.

(3) A demon wheeling three people into hell mouth, a frequent subject on stalls at Ludlow and elsewhere; the supporters animals holding drinking vessels.

(4) This central subject is cut away; the supporters are grotesque heads in semicircles.

(5) Two angels holding a shield with floral supporters.

(6) This is the most interesting subject in the series, the fox in a pulpit preaching to the geese. This occurs at Beverley Minster, Bristol Cathedral, Cartmel Priory, Nantwich Church, and other places; the supporters are destroyed.

(7) The main subject is here broken away; the left-hand supporter is an angel kneeling with implements of the passion, and occurs at Chester; the right hand is a queen kneeling before a prayer-desk with uplifted hands, and recalls the memory of a stall at the fine church of Norton, near Bury St. Edmunds.

A paper was read by Mr. W. Harrison, in the absence of Major French, the writer, on the so-called Martyr Stone of George Marsh, at Dean, near Bolton. A brief

discussion took place upon the latter communication, in which Messrs. Woodburne and Letts took part.

Mr. C. T. Tallent-Bateman afterwards gave some reminiscences of the late Miss Emily Holt.

Friday, March 2nd, 1894.

The monthly meeting was held in Chetham Library, Professor W. Boyd Dawkins, F.R.S., presiding.

Mr. Yates showed three medals commemorating Her Majesty's visit to Manchester in 1851. On the reverse of one of the medals is a view of the Manchester Collegiate Church, Victoria Bridge, with a triumphal arch, under which her majesty and suite are passing, and Ben Lang's Music Hall. Another medal has an excellent view of Worsley Hall, with the royal barge sailing along the Canal. The third has the double heads of the Queen and Prince Albert, with legend, "In commemoration of the general assemblage of Sunday Schools from the boroughs of Manchester and Salford in Peel Park to welcome Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen and her royal consort, October 10, 1851. John Potter, Esq., Mayor of Manchester. Thomas Agnew, Esq., Mayor of Salford." Mr. Yates also exhibited a medal of John Dalton, "To commemorate the meeting of the British Association held in Manchester, and in honour of John Dalton, by the proprietors of *Bradshaw's Journal.* June, 1842;" and a medal with a view of the old Royal Infirmary, Manchester, dated 1796.

Mr. George B. L. Woodburne exhibited a Waterloo medal; also a MS. copy of the statutes of the Order of the Garter, supposed to have belonged to Cardinal Allen.

Mr. A. Nicholson, the engraving of a bronze urn found at Chester, and a portrait of Sir Piers Dutton, of Hatton,

to whom Henry the Seventh confirmed the advocacy of the Chester Minstrels.

Mr. Nathan Heywood exhibited a bronze medal struck in commemoration of the last visit of the British Archæological Association to Manchester. He also showed a Jewish shekel and half-shekel, and read an interesting paper on Bible Coins.

Mr. Albert Nicholson and the Chairman reported on the proceedings of the committee appointed to make arrangements as to the mace and other insignia which it was proposed to present to the Corporation of Manchester.

Mr. A. Taylor gave an interesting description of some curious markings on a rock surface at Kircudbright, and exhibited photographs of the same. Discussion took place, in which the Chairman and Dr. March took part.

Mr. Robert Langton read the following short paper on the Old Bell at Bradshaw, near Bolton: Some twelve years since I went to Bradshaw with our member and friend, the late Mr. J. C. Scholes, of Bolton, and we together ascended the almost ruinous tower, which is all that is left of the older church of St. Maxentius, and made a careful examination of this curious pre-Reformation bell. We found it lying on the floor of an upper chamber of the tower, and I remember we had some little difficulty in getting there by means of a ladder. I cannot give you the exact weight of this bell, as we had no means of weighing it, but from the diameter at the mouth, twenty and a half inches, I estimate the weight to be about two hundredweight. We managed to lift it up on to its stock so as to hear the tone, and though I cannot tell you the note, I should pronounce the tone to be very fine indeed. I then made the rubbing which I now produce, which, allowing for the almost inevitable bell-founders' blunders, reads "Ave Maria

Gracia Plena," and not "Ave Maria Graia Appela" as stated in Mr. Axon's *Lancashire Gleanings*, p. 238. To give you some idea of how very common this particular inscription must have been on old bells of the church, I may state that of the two thousand and thirty-four church bells of Lincolnshire described by North, three huudred and fifty-six are ancient, that is, bells cast before A.D. 1600. Of these, seventy-two are dedicated to or bear inscriptions relating to the Blessed Virgin Mary, and of these again ten bear the inscription, "Ave Maria Gracia Plena." We found there was a sort of tradition, that this bell was brought to Bradshaw Chapel at the dissolution of the monasteries from some religious house in the adjoining county of Yorkshire. About the truth of that I can learn nothing, and, although such traditions abound in all parts of England, I should say in this particular case it is probable enough. The date of the bell may be the early part of the fifteenth or late in the fourteenth century. I can only judge of that by the character of the letters, the general contour of the bell, and the shape of the canons or ears by which the bell has been suspended. The Rev. R. K. Judson, M.A., the vicar of Bradshaw (to whom I am indebted for some of these facts), tells me the bell is lying in just the same state of neglect as it was when I saw it, and that he had so far tried in vain to interest the vestry and parishioners sufficiently to induce them to bear the small expense of re-hanging and restoring to its proper use this interesting and little-appreciated piece of antiquity. I am sorry that owing to the shortness of the days I could not accept the vicar's kind invitation to run over and sketch or photograph the bell. It might possibly be a job that some younger member who lives near the spot might undertake, with a view to printing it in our next volume. I also exhibit the original drawing

made from a rubbing of the inscription on the now celebrated bell at St. Chad's, Claughton, near Lancaster, an account of which, with illustrations, I communicated to the *Palatine Note-Book* for August, 1884.

The principal paper of the evening was by the Rev. E. F. Letts, M.A., on "Warden Heyrick and his Brass in Manchester Cathedral."

Dr. Colley March, F.S.A., read a paper, entitled "Fresh Evidence of the Antiquity of Dun Ængus, Inishmore."*

Friday, April 6th, 1894.

The closing meeting of the winter session was held in the Chetham Library, Mr. W. E. A. Axon presiding.

The following new members were elected: Messrs. James Watts, Herbert Sandford Claye, Samuel Warburton, and Incledon Webber.

Mr. E. W. Barton exhibited a beautifully worked flint arrow-head, found in his garden at Sale, about two feet from the surface, in a layer of coarse yellow sand, known locally as the "Fox Bench" or "Fox Bank." The garden is about half a mile south of the ancient bank of the river Mersey, and ninety years ago was part of Sale Moor and afterwards pasture land. It is about one hundred yards from the site of the grand stand, which collapsed at the review referred to by Mrs. Banks in *The Manchester Man.*

Mr. J. P. Earwaker, F.S.A., exhibited and described the original contract for building Oldham Church, 1476, and other deeds and papers relating to Oldham, after which an interesting discussion took place, in which

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* Dr. March's paper, after being re-cast by him, was read before the Society of Antiquaries, and has been printed in their *Proceedings* (second series, vol. xv., p. 224).

Messrs. S. Andrew, Giles Shaw, and John Dean, Colonel Fishwick, the Rev. E. F. Letts, and the Vicar of Oldham took part.

Major French read a paper on the recently discovered stone circles on Chetham's Close, which he illustrated by diagrams. (See page 42.) In the discussion Mr. J. Holme Nicholson thought from the description given the remains might very possibly be those of British dwellings within an enclosure. Messrs. A. Nicholson, Beaumont, and Dr. Colley March also took part in the discussion.

Mrs. Linnæus Banks sent an interesting paper, embodying reminiscences of Sandbach seventy years ago, which was read by Mr. C. W. Sutton.

Mr. G. C. Yates exhibited a flint round scraper, beautifully worked, from Bromehill, Norfolk; similar to the one figured in Sir John Evans's *Ancient Stone Implements* (p. 276, fig. 219); also a greenstone hatchet from New Zealand.

Mr. Norman Sheldon exhibited some flint implements found at Kersal Moor.

Mr. Richardson exhibited a Bank of England dollar (1804) and a Manchester seventeenth century penny token.

Mr. William Harrison exhibited an original print of the *Northampton Mercury*, November 1st, 1736, containing the conclusion of the trial of Captain Porteous at Edinburgh.

Mr. William E. A. Axon exhibited an early printed tract of twelve pages, undated, but believed to have been printed at Venice in 1480. It contained the Latin text of the letter of Prester John, in two articles, by Æneas Sylvius Piccolomini, who afterwards became Pope Pius II.

Mr. Yates made the following communication on the ancient boat recently found in the ship canal excavations: The excavators employed by Mr. John Jackson, the contractor for the Manchester Ship Canal, while digging out the western approach to the new lock at Lower Walton, came across what seemed to be the trunk of a tree, but which on excavating about it further proved to be an ancient British boat or "dug-out." It is of oak, hollowed out by some sharp instrument, the marks of which are still apparent. It is twelve feet long, two feet four inches wide at the bow, two feet eight inches wide at the centre, and two feet eleven inches at the stern. The depth is twelve inches at the centre inside. Generally, the thickness of wood is about three inches, but with great art two "stiffeners" have been left in, dividing the bottom of the boat into three parts. The thickness of these "stiffeners" is about seven inches. There are two knot holes, where branches have projected from the trunk of the tree, but these were beautifully plugged with wood. In the stern is a seat, and behind the seat a slightly raised, flat, and well curved waling; both seat and waling being fitted together and fastened by the same plugs at each end. The fastenings are mostly oak plugs, but one rivet was found of metal. There are no rowlocks or rudder. She was lying bottom upwards, with stern lying N.N.E., on the Arpley Meadows, sixty feet from the present river course, and eighteen feet below the surface. Below her was a bed of fine sand, which lay five feet above the boulder clay. Above a layer of black silt. She is a very light and fleet looking skiff, and considering the material and method of her making is of beautiful proportions.

Thursday, May 3rd, 1894.

A party of members visited the old church at Didsbury, Mr. Fletcher Moss acting as guide. The inscription on the tower was explained to mean that Sir Edward Mosley and Ann Mosley, widow, were the founders of it. They were the son and daughter-in-law of Sir Nicholas Mosley, and the date was 1620. It was the opinion of some members of the Society that little, if any, of the original church existed, and that the round arches and pillars of the oldest part were not Norman, but had been rebuilt, probably when the galleries were erected. The great thickness of the old walls was remarked as curious, especially when it was said that one faculty had authorised the reduction of them by two feet. There is original round-headed work in the stone staircase.

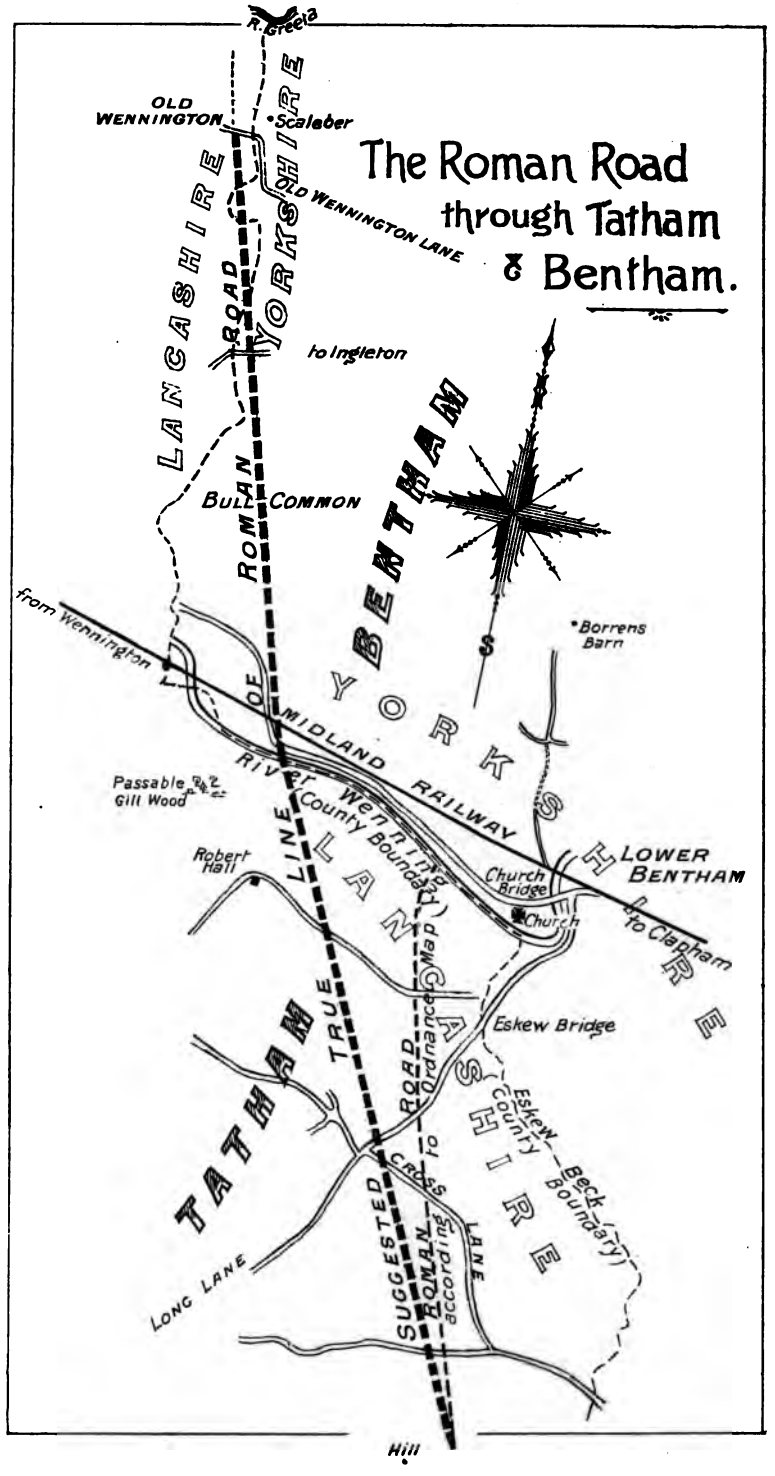
Mr. Moss said that the earliest known reference to Diddesburie Chapel was in a deed relating to the Barlow family. That deed is without date but of the thirteenth century. It mentions Alexander, Capellanus de Diddesburie. The next earliest is the dedication of the chapel-yard in 1352, after the fearful pestilence, called the Black Death. The registers begin in 1561, and one of the earliest baptisms is that of Edward Barlowe, the Father Ambrose of the Benedictines, who accepted martyrdom at Lancaster, in 1641, after the Anglican divines had vainly endeavoured to convert him to the Thirty-nine Articles as he was being dragged on a hurdle to be tortured. For a century after the Reformation, the Barlows continued to use the chapel, and to be Roman Catholics without change. In 1612 was buried Sir Nicholas Mosseley (as the name was then spelt), once Lord Mayor of London, who had come into prominence at the time of the Spanish Armada. In 1642 was buried Mr. Thomas

Hebblethwaites, "this gentleman came against Manchester, and was slaine at the seige there, and was buryed at Didisburie by Mr. Turner, the schoolemaster." This is the only entry relating to the siege of Manchester, though other persons concerned in it were buried at Didsbury, it being the nearest consecrated ground outside the town. It is also an important entry, as it shows that there was a schoolmaster two hundred and fifty years ago, a luxury that can scarcely be afforded by Didsbury at the present time. Another entry, of Richard Ward, gent, a trooper, Mr. Moss conjectured to refer to a yeoman trooper killed at the siege of Wythenshawe Hall, as it is on the same date. There is also the burial of Richard Twyford, of Didsbury, brother-in-law to Mr. Tatton, who was in Wythenshawe during the siege. In 1645 "the Chansell" was repaired at the cost of the sequestrator of the estates of delinquents and papists. There is a curious entry relating to the "civill and bloodie warrs betwixt King Charles and his Parlament," and the plundering of the book. Other entries mention the marriage of Captain Worsley, of Platt, the first M.P. for Manchester; the burial of Sir Edward Mosley, Lord of the Hough and Manchester. Also of Dame Anne Bland, she was buried in the Mosley Chapel of Didsbury Church. Other entries are: 1718, "Buried James Lester minester off Didsbury and kiper off the Liberary at the Collich." 1720, the christening of George Fletcher, possibly the Captain G. Fletcher whose head was stuck up on Temple Bar in 1746. 1730, the marriage of Tom Siddall to Maria Fletcher de Burnage, the Tom Siddall whose head was stuck up on the Manchester Exchange. The burial of the sister of Captain Dawson, whose sweetheart died on seeing him executed and mangled at the same time as the above-named. The burial of a Gaskill who

was through the siege of Gibraltar under General Elliott, of red-hot-cannon-ball fame. Of one of the crew of the Bellerophon, the vessel that took Napoleon to St. Helena. Of Macnamara, who cleft the head of a Russian general in the heavy cavalry charge at Balaklava. A very fair list for one parish church of those who helped to make the history of England. Other objects of antiquarian interest were the remains of the old chained books; the accounts of the number of centenarians registered who, in former years, drank of the water of the spring near the churchyard; of the Woods who held in their family the office of clerks for at least two hundred and fifty years; of the parish meetings that were always held on St. Oswald's Day; of the wakes and many curious entries in the accounts of the churchwardens, such as the spending of fourpence on a Christmas treat to the new parson: and finally it was given out that in the Old Parsonage there was some elderberry and damson wine, made in 1834 by Mrs. Moss, who is still living, and it also was of antiquarian interest as being wonderfully sound and good.

An hour was pleasantly spent in the Old Parsonage, Mr. Moss's residence, and its garden.

Mr. J. S. Slinger, of Lancaster, sent to the meeting a paper (with illustrative map), which was read by Mr. W. Harrison, on his recent investigation of the Roman road at Bentham and Tatham. He said the tracing of the route of the Roman road from Ribchester to Overborough particularly in that part from the "Hill" in Tatham to the river Greeta, had been a matter of speculation for over fifty years. After quoting the opinion of Mr. Just in 1848, adopted by Watkin in his *Roman Lancashire*, p. 81, that "on the highest point of the Hill estate an angle is formed to gain the ford at Bentham Bridge," Mr. Slinger


The Roman Road through Tatham & Bentham.
R. Greeta
OLD WENNINGTON
Scaleber
OLD WENNINGTON LANE
LANCASHIRE
YORKSHIRE
ROMAN ROAD
to Ingleton
BULL COMMON
BENTHAM
from Wennington
Borrens Barn
MIDLAND RAILWAY
YORKSHIRE
Passable Gill Wood
River Wenning
County Boundary
Robert Hall
LANCASHIRE
LOWER BENTHAM
Church Bridge
Church
to Clapham
TRUE LINE OF ROMAN ROAD
Ordnance Map
Eskew Bridge
TATHAM
Eskew Beck
County Boundary
SUGGESTED ROAD
CROSS LANE
LONG LANE
according to
Hill

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showed that for a considerable distance no ford was possible on account of the height of the north bank of the Wenning, and that the most fordable place was on or very near to a line to the "Ridding," which he suggested was the true one, and which was on the usual plan of the Roman roads, *i.e.*, making the angles from the top of a hill or the crossing of a beck or river, and not like the "dog-leg" in Watkin's map, which makes two angles when the features of the country do not require it. The land being well cultivated there was not much prospect of finding any remains.

Saturday, June 16th, 1894.

INCE BLUNDELL HALL AND SEPHTON CHURCH.

About forty members of the Society, under the guidance of the Honorary Secretary (Mr. George C. Yates), visited Ince Blundell Hall and Sephton Church. Ince Blundell Hall is the Lancashire seat of Mr. Charles Joseph Weld Blundell, the representative of the ancient family of Weld of Lulworth Castle, whose ancestors, the Sherburns, were owners of Stonyhurst. Arriving at Sephton the party, having been met by Mr. William E. Gregson, of Great Crosby, the local secretary of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, drove past Sephton Church and the ancient well of St. Helen, through the village of Lunt (Lunte of Domesday Book), alongside the Sephton Meadows to Ince Blundell Hall. Ince Blundell is the Hinne of Domesday Book.

Through the kindness of Mr. Weld Blundell the members were permitted to inspect the collection of ancient marbles gathered together by the late Mr. Henry Blundell, of Ince Blundell, which are now deposited in the room specially built for them, and known as the

Pantheon. These marbles, which are of the deepest interest, contain examples of Greek, Roman, and Egyptian work, and are perhaps better known and appreciated on the continent than by Englishmen. The collection of antiques appears to be the largest private collection (unless the former Townley collection equalled or just surpassed it) which England ever possessed, though it is inferior to others in the number of remarkable specimens. It is exclusively the work of Mr. Henry Blundell (born 1728, died 1810). Mr. Blundell had nearly attained to his grand climacteric, when, having accompanied Mr. Townley to Rome, he was present on the occasion when (through the agency of Jenkins) the marbles of the Villas Mattei and d'Este were offered for sale. An opportunity so alluring, of becoming possessed of well-known antique statues and of a collection without a gradual and tedious acquirement, was a temptation not to be resisted by Mr. Blundell. The earliest purchases were made in 1777, among which were also copies of antiques. The purchases soon increased prodigiously. The above-mentioned collection of the Villa Mattei on the Caelian Hill and the Ville d'Este at Tivoli proved especially productive. Other specimens were furnished by different well-known palaces. It was Thorpe for the most part, *ci-devant* Jesuit father, who is said to have been also actively engaged on Townley's behalf, who advised the purchases, and looked after them in Rome. In May, 1800, forty-five chests of objects of art were sold by auction at Christie's, which had been carried off by the French from the pope's apartments, and of these Blundell bought ten specimens. In June of the same year he bought eight at Lord Cawdor's sale; in April, 1801, at that of Lord Bessborough, of Roehampton, twenty-two; in May, 1802, at that of Lord Mendip at

Twickenham in his villa (formerly Mr. Alexander Pope's), seven specimens. The fame of the new collection soon drew a multitude of visitors from Liverpool, which was annoying to the inhabitants of the house. On this account Mr. Blundell had a large hall with a cupola and circular skylight, called the "Garden Pantheon," built near his house for the reception of the choicest specimens. It was afterwards brought into immediate connection with the dwelling-house by a passage. Three large, four medium-sized, and eight smaller niches, walls, tables, and pedestals, and lastly the floor in this building received the bulk of these antiques. The staircase is adorned with antiques of all sorts, while individual specimens stand in the picture gallery. A further considerable storehouse is a garden house, called the "Garden Temple," a spacious square edifice with the corners cut off, the walls furnished with niches. The pictures, which are mostly of the early Italian and Dutch schools, and the library were also inspected. The latter contains many valuable books.

On leaving Ince Blundell the party drove through Thornton and past the ancient sundial and stocks to the Punch Bowl Inn at Sephton, where tea was provided in the room in which the Mock Corporation of Sephton used to hold their revels. This Mock Corporation, like most others, degenerated from a loyalist club into a dining-out society. The full records of the society have recently been printed by Mr. W. D. Caroe, F.S.A., in his book, *Sefton*. After tea the party went through the ancient parish church of St. Helen at Sephton. This church consists of nave, chancel, two side aisles, and a tower surmounted by a steeple. The tower and the chapel on the north side are of Early Decorated work, about 1300—1320. The greater part of the north aisle

is about one hundred years later, and the nave, chancel, and south aisle are about 1520—1535. The chancel is separated from the nave by an oak screen, which is mostly of modern work, although it has bits of old carving worked up in it. The stalls in the chancel, the screen of the south chapel, and the oak benches with poppy-head ends in the nave are work of about 1480 to 1500, although these latter are not *in situ*. The brasses of the ancestors of the Earl of Sefton (Molyneuxs of Sefton), which are in this church, are in excellent preservation, and were carefully examined. One of these brasses is of Sir Richard Molyneux (who died in 1566) and his two wives and their children. By the first wife he had five sons and eight daughters, and by the second five sons and one daughter. They are ranged by their respective mothers, with the following inscription and quaint epitaph underneath:—

Sir Richarde Molyneux Knighte and Dame Elenore his wyffe,
whose soules God pdon.

Dame Worshope was my guide in lyfe
And did my doinges guyde,
Dame Wertue left me not alone
When soule from bodye hyed;
And though that deathe with dinte of darte
Hath brought my corps on sleape,
The eternall God my eternall soule
Eternally doethe kepe.

In the same chapel are several tombs of the Molyneux family. One in white marble is to the memory of Caryll, third Viscount Molyneux, who died in 1699. Caryll was an eminent but unsuccessful Royalist, and was one of those who signed a petition to Prince Rupert for the relief of Lathom House in March, 1643, when it was besieged by the Parliamentary forces, and defended by the heroic Countess of Derby till the siege was raised

by the approach of Prince Rupert's army on May 28th. Near his tomb is that of his wife, daughter of Alexander Barlow. There are also brasses of Sir William Molyneux (who fought at Flodden and took two banners with his own hand) and his two wives; and of Lady Margaret Bulkeley, who was a daughter of Sir T. Molyneux, and who founded a chantry of our Lady of Pity in the chapel at the east end of the south aisle. This latter brass has a splendid canopy inlaid in the stone, and is in almost perfect preservation. The pulpit is a curiously ornate specimen of seventeenth century work, and is adorned with an abundance of carving; and around it, in gilt letters, is the inscription, with a date, 1635:—

> He that covereth his sinne shall not prosper;
> But who so confesseth and forsaketh them shalt have
> Mercie. Happy is the man.

Round the sounding board are the words:—

> My sonne feare thou the Lorde and the King,
> And medle not with them that are given to change.

There are six bells, two of which are of the date of 1815. The other four are old. The registers begin in 1597. The first date in them is February 7th, 1597. In the register of marriages none are entered in the years 1653-56, but the page contains the following: "Anno 1653, 1654, 1655, 1656, all marriages made by justices of the peace;" and a little further we have this: "Anno 1657. That all ye marrying by justices was to continue but six months after the first sesshons of the P'liament," to which is appended, in another hand and different ink, "Ended in December." The 1720 church plate was by the kindness of the rector of Sephton (the Rev. G. W. Wall, M.A.) placed in the church for the inspection of the visitors.

Saturday, July 7th, 1894.

BIRKENHEAD PRIORY AND BIDSTON.

A party of about thirty members of the Society, under the leadership of Mr. G. C. Yates, proceeded to Liverpool by the half-past twelve train, and then catching an early boat to Woodside arrived at the priory of SS. Mary and James, Birkenhead, by two. The ruins were thrown open to the members by the kindness of the Rev. Canon Linton, M.A. At the priory the party was met by Mr E. W. Cox, of the Lancashire and Cheshire Historic Society, who acted as guide, and gave an excellent description of this ancient fabric.

The priory of Birkenhead was founded about 1150, and dissolved, among the smaller monasteries, by Henry VIII. in the year 1536. This monastery was inhabited by sixteen monks of the Benedictine order, under the control of a prior. When founded the appearance of the country around differed much from that which it presents now. "The greater part of the hundred of Wirral was one of the Earl of Chester's forests. Woods rich in dell and dingle girded the priory, with its grange and cultivated strip of land on the west;" on the north, the little stream of the Birken swelled into a broad pool at its confluence with the Mersey, and gave its name to the new town of Birkenhead. Nearly opposite to Birkenhead, on the low banks of the river, lay the "Hamlet of Lyverpol."

The claims of the Prior of Birkenhead were extensive. He claimed right of pasture in Bidston, Moreton, and Saughall, and "to hold a court of the Manor of Claughton." He claimed rights of fisheries, wreckage, and boats from the manor of Oxton to the Mersey, and a right of common for his own beasts and those of his

tenants in Tranmere. He claimed the right of ferrying passengers from Birkenhead to Liverpool, and for building houses for their accommodation by Royal Letters Patent from Edwards II. and III. He sat in the Parliament of the Palatinate with the Masseys and Vernons, as well as with his spiritual peers, the Bishop of Lichfield, the Abbots of Bangor, Chester, and Combermere, and the priors of Norton and Stanlaw. He had full feudal jurisdiction in his own domain. Of the charters granted to the prior, the first (by Edward II., 1318) conveyed the privilege of being allowed to erect houses, and to supply provisions for the accommodation of travellers, who might be detained by contrary winds and stormy weather. The prior accordingly added to his numerous responsibilities that of keeping an inn. The second charter (by Edward III., 1332) conveyed the right of ferryage from Birkenhead to Liverpool, the fares being for man and horse twopence, or a man alone one farthing. On Saturday, the market day, the charges were for a man one halfpenny, for a man and what he could carry one penny. The market at Liverpool would draw many people from Wirral, and citizens of Liverpool, who used to resort to the shrine of "Our Ladye of Hilbree" on the return from their pilgrimage, necessarily would patronise this ferry. The monks of the priory had also considerable dealings in grain; they had granges scattered over the country, each with its bailiff, who superintended the operations. Their Liverpool house of business was in Water Street, "Jonathan Hunter's hoose, Watter-street," we are told. "This hoose being formerly ye Granary belonged to the priory of Birket, in Wirral, when such corne as they left unsould on ye market days was cared up those back stares of stone into an uper rome, and there lay til next market day. This hoose, called ye Granary of Birket Priory, was

sould after ye dissolution of abies by yt very name." At the dissolution in 1536 Birkenhead was one of the first that fell. The property of the prior and monks—riches, dues, convent, belfry, grange, water-mill, ferry house, and "ferribot," messuage and tenement, lordship and manor—passed into the hands of King Henry VIII., and afterwards to one Ralph Worsley. The dislodged monks were provided with forty shillings and a new gown, and earned a livelihood, some by bookbinding, some by singing at Wallasey or Bidstone, some perhaps by even lower employment, as best they could.

Mr. Cox kindly prepared a ground plan showing all the buildings that now remain. The Chapter House is the most ancient and the most interesting part of the conventual buildings, dating from its foundation in 1150. It was probably used by the monks at first as their chapel, until they built the priory church a hundred years later, and it is known at the present day as St. James's Chapel. It is strange that this building, the oldest portion of the conventual buildings, should have survived all the others that were built subsequently. No doubt this is due to its greater strength and solidity, and partly because it was doubtless thought advisable to leave some building intact to serve as a private chapel for the new proprietor. The party then visited the crypt or cellarer's hall, the refectory and prior's apartments, and other parts of this interesting ruin, all of which were described by the leader.

On leaving the priory, the party proceeded by tram to Birkenhead Park, through which they passed, and then on to Haybrick Hill Cemetery, then ascending Bidston Hill, and passing the observatory and lighthouse, arrived at Bidston Church. The present building was erected in 1856, with the exception of the tower, which probably

dates from 1520, and the chancel, which was built in 1882. The tower has many points of resemblance to the towers of Shotwick, Backford, and Wallasey churches. The only guides we have in trying to discover its age are the style of architecture and the armorial bearings over the door on its western side. The present building contains nothing of interest except a fine reproduction in mosaic by Salviati of Da Vinci's "Last Supper" as a reredos.

To all lovers of the picturesque, Bidston village, with its gray gabled houses nestling between the church and the old hall, is too well known to need describing. There are surely few spots in England lying so near a great city that have retained their rustic beauty as completely as Bidston has done. Every house is a picture, and the whole taken together forms a scene of quaint restfulness that it would be difficult to equal. It is comforting to think that so long as the present squire reigns, at all events, there is nothing to fear from the desolating hand of the speculative builder, and may those who succeed him be imbued with the same spirit that has prompted the insertion in the deed conveying Bidston Hill to the corporation of the clause that preserves the rugged wildness of nature from being marred by the gravel paths and oyster-shell-trimmed flower beds of the landscape gardener. A visit was paid to the Old Hall. It stands to-day with very little change as it left the hands of its builder, nearly three hundred years ago. There can be little doubt that William, the sixth Earl of Derby, built it in 1620 or 1621. Whether he built the hall or not, we have indisputable evidence that he lived in it, from the *Calendar of State Papers*. The seven farmhouses which form the village of Bidston are each worthy of study, but only one has attained to world-wide notoriety. This was the house

where the members were provided with tea. It was once a licensed house, known by the sign of the Ring o' Bells, and to this house Albert Smith in his wanderings came—a visit which has been immortalised in *Christopher Tadpole.* He says: It was a little quiet grey village—so very grey indeed and venerable and quaint that no flaunting red brick had dared to show itself and break the uniform tint of its gabled antiquity. The houses were grey, and so was the church tower. So also was the pedestal of the sundial in the churchyard, which mutely spoke its lessons on corroding time to all who cared to heed it. And the old Grange, with its mullioned windows and its ivy-covered gateway, was the greyest of all; there was scarcely any surmising as to when it had been a green, damp, level young house. None could have given the information but the church tower; but when that spoke, it was but of the newly past, the fleeting present, or the call to the future heaven. Hickory led his little companion by the church, and at last they stopped at a small hotel, with which he seemed to be well acquainted. "Whoa!" he cried, as he halted at the door. "Here is the Ring o' Bells at Bidston, and here we will put up for the night. Are you tired, Christy?" "I'm very hungry," replied the little boy. "Ah! hunger's the best sauce," observed Hickory. "Look there, can you read what's over the door? there's just light enough." "S. J. Simon Croft," said Christopher, staring at the board. "No, no, the poetry," continued Hickory. "Listen now: Walk in, my friends, and taste my beer and liquor; if your pockets be well stored, you'll find it come the quicker. Very good, now go on from 'quicker.'" "But for the want of that," read Christopher, "has c-a-u." "Has caused both grief and sorrow," continued Hickory. "Therefore you must pay to-day! I will trust to-morrow."

Saturday, August 18th, 1894.

A party of members and friends of the Society, under the leadership of Mr. Tallent-Bateman, and with the permission of the landholders interested, visited the interesting height known as the Great Low, and the Roman road, both near Rainow. The line of the old road was traced, parallel to the existing road, midway between Bollington and Jenkin Chapel, and the slopes and summit of the Great Low were carefully traversed and examined for the purpose of coming to a conclusion whether or not the Low was, what the leader claimed it to be, an ancient British fort. The conclusion which the experts present came to was, that there were signs of fortification in and about the Low (which stands one thousand one hundred and fifty-nine feet above the sea-level), and it was proposed that a smaller party should attend on a later day to make further investigations. The party had tea at a neighbouring farm, and returned by way of Ingersley Hall, visiting the beautiful waterfall in the valley. A statement was made by a resident, that on the adjoining height, Billinge Head, now being extensively quarried, some ancient graves were opened by the late Mr. Croston, and it is proposed to investigate the accuracy of this report, as such an occurrence would throw considerable light on the ancient history of the immediate neighbourhood. It was suggested that this visit should be the beginning of a proposed series of visits to various fortified stations and sights of tumuli in the Cheshire offshoots of the Pennine Range.*

* A correspondent of the *Manchester City News* (I. W. B., Ashton-under-Lyne), sent the following remarks on the above visit: "I recollect being on Great Low on one of my visits a few years ago, and noticed that the men who have been working the quarry there for some years had, in their excavations on baring the stone for quarrying, uncovered or exposed the

Saturday, September 8th, 1894.

A visit was paid to Turton, where the members were met by Mr. Thomas Hardcastle, of Bradshaw Hall, and Colonel Le Gendre Starkie. The former acted as leader, and conducted the party to the stone circles, which are situated on his property at Chetham's Close, or Turton Moor. After a careful examination of these circles, the members went to Clough Farm, where they were hospitably entertained by Mr. Hardcastle. Afterwards a meeting was held, and Dr. H. Colley March, F.S.A., was voted to the chair. An interesting discussion took place. The chairman stated that one circle was shaped like a galleried tumulus, the other enclosure was that of a so-called British village, with beehive huts. A vote of thanks to Mr. Hardcastle was given for the trouble he had taken in having these relics of the past opened out for the inspection of the members. (See Major French's paper, p. 42.)

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upper part of an old circular shaft or well, and had removed one half of the circle or stonework of the shaft for about six feet down. I was quietly examining this one day, thinking at the time that I had found the well, or means of supplying water to what had been one day an ancient fortress, when I heard a voice over my head, and, looking up, found it came from an aged native. We got into conversation, and he rather surprised me by saying that he could recollect this shaft being worked as a colliery. The shaft is or was not more than about three feet six inches in diameter inside, and it certainly is a rather remarkable place for a coalpit shaft. But then again, in many places in the immediate neighbourhood, places can be found where they have evidently been trying for coal. Referring to Billinge Head and the late Mr. Croston, I am inclined to think, if he had ever unearthed anything worth notice there, he would have told us something about it. The district is rich in geological fossil. There are at least two tumuli; the site of an ancient cross and fair-ground at Blue Boar; Sattersford Hall, one of the old black-and-white houses that date from about 1500, and many other matters of interest in the district."

Friday, October 12th, 1894.

The opening meeting of the winter session was held in Chetham Library, Professor Boyd Dawkins presiding.

The following objects of interest were exhibited:—

Mr. G. C. Yates, a beautifully-worked flint scraper and hammer stone from Santon, and a modern stone celt from the Solomon Islands.

Mr. A. Nicholson, an oval silver amulet, on the obverse an effigy of King Charles I., reverse, arms of the king.

Mr. S. Jackson, a fine specimen of a perforated axe-hammer. Mr. Jackson said that it was found by a farmer whilst ploughing a field at Thistley Breast, Barnacre township, about three miles east of the town of Garstang, about fifty years ago. It remained little noticed in a farmyard at Carter Houses until recently, when a gentleman took possession of it, and he kindly lent it for exhibition. The axe has evidently been used in late years as a whetstone, and must have been originally about twelve inches in length and weighs six pounds. Other objects of the same description have been found in the same neighbourhood.

Local photographs, rare books, and other objects of antiquarian interest, were shown by Messrs. Dean, Taylor, J. R. Jackson, Professor Lobenhoffer, and John Owen.

The President, in his opening address, congratulated the members on the position of the Society. It was firmly established among the archæological societies of

the country, and was doing local work of the very highest importance not only with regard to the period covered by history, but also the period beyond history in the remote past. Much of the success the Society had achieved was, without doubt, due to the indefatigable Secretary, Mr. Yates. The President proceeded to say that he had not been able to prepare a set address, and he was obliged to fall back upon one or two points of archæological interest which had come before him during the last three or four months. He had been working at the apparently unpromising subject of human skulls. In digging in the Preston docks, underneath the alluvium, lying in association with the old forest which exists in that place, and amongst the stumps of trees of that ancient forest, a number of ancient skulls had been met with. He found that those skulls had belonged to people of very fair intellectual development. They were all oval skulls, tending in one or two instances towards the long-headed type. Of their place in European ethnology there would be no doubt whatever. They were identical with the skulls which had been found throughout these islands, as well as through France and Spain, and were to be found to-day in the cemeteries of the modern Basques. Thus they had evidence of the ancient population of this country being Iberian. It was interesting to note that along with those skulls they got some others which were of a different type altogether. These others were round skulls with high cheek bones, and belonged to a newer type, which made its appearance in this country in the Bronze Age. In the Preston docks excavations, bronze implements were met with, so that they had both the bronze implements and the people who introduced them side by side. Both the types, the Iberian and the Celtic, were amply repre-

sented in the present population of our islands. He had been re-measuring the collection of skulls made in Derbyshire by the two Batemans during the first half of the century, and had been astonished to find the enormous preponderance of the Celtic type. The Celtic people were the dominant inhabitants of Derbyshire in the Bronze Age. He had been skull hunting, too, in Yorkshire. What he had said about Derbyshire might well extend to the greater county; and with regard to the south of England, also, the round-headed Celtic skulls were universally associated with the Bronze Age, although in places they were also found with the longer ones, showing that there was then a Celtic-Iberian mixture in this country as there also was in France and Spain. The Iberians were the smaller people, and were pre-Aryan.

At Glastonbury, in Somersetshire, an excavation committee, of which he was a member, had made some curious discoveries during the last two years. They had found that the prehistoric lake-dwellers there, besides being herdsmen, had learned how to spin and weave. Vast numbers of bits of looms had been met with there. The woodwork they had left behind was singularly beautiful, and was evidently executed with iron tools, a number of which had been found. They carried on the process of smelting, for traces of the process had been found, and there had been a number of finds of bronze safety pin brooches. The safety pin brooch came in in the prehistoric Iron Age. Beads and pieces of half-melted glass were among the unearthed evidences of their accomplishments. Looking at these things, it was perfectly astonishing that people acquiring those arts should have had such a frightfully uncomfortable place as the lake village for their head-quarters. It showed that the country must have been in a very disturbed state at

the time. Two skulls had been found outside the village. They were of the type found predominating in the place, and they bore sword marks, as though their owners were slain in battle. Professor Dawkins exhibited a series of photographs to illustrate his address.

The Rev. I. R. Luck, S.J., sent a paper (which was read in his absence by Mr. Yates) on the opening of a large tumulus near Stonyhurst. (See page 30.) Most of the objects found in the tumulus were sent for exhibition, and were described by Dr. Colley March.

The Rev. E. F. Letts read a short paper, contributed by Monsignor Gradwell, on "The Oldest Church in Lancashire." (See page 100.) A discussion took place, after the reading of this paper, in which Messrs. Fishwick, D. F. Howorth, Bowden, and Letts took part.

The Honorary Secretary reported that an interesting antiquarian discovery was made recently at Stanton Low, Furness, limestone quarries. A quarryman had put in a blast low down in the limestone rock, and amongst the fragments of stone thrown up were two large bronze celts in a remarkably good state of preservation. One was a palstave and the other was socketed.

Saturday, October 13th, 1894.

A party of the members visited Wardley Hall, under the leadership of the Honorary Secretary, to examine some fine old chimney-pieces and ceilings, which had come to light during extensive alterations. The members were met by Mr. F. E. Cairns, the present tenant, who kindly accompanied them round the hall, and pointed out the numerous objects of interest, including the celebrated skull, of which the leader gave a short account.

Friday, November 2nd, 1894.

The monthly meeting was held in Chetham Library, Lieut.-Colonel Fishwick, F.S.A., presiding.

Amongst the archæological objects exhibited was a beautiful bronze Roman fibula, by Mr. Tattersall Wilkinson, of Burnley. In his description of it he said, "It is in a remarkable state of preservation, and has suffered very little from oxidisation. The composition of the metals of which these articles are made seems almost to have been lost, for we have no metals that have such a property of resisting oxidisation. It was found on the Burnley moors, about eighteen inches under the surface." Mr. Wilkinson also found a bronze coin of Marcus Aurelius in close proximity about two years ago.

Mr. Churchill exhibited a bronze celt (palstave) found at Adswood, Stockport, about 1892, at a depth of fourteen to fifteen feet, whilst digging a drain.

Mr. George C. Yates, F.S.A., read a short communication on hollow scrapers, and exhibited in illustration two from different Irish localities, one from Sussex, and another from Waddy Halfa. In speaking of flint scrapers the designation of hollow scraper may be applied, the scraping edge being concave instead of, as usual, convex. They appear to have been used for scraping some cylindrical objects. Tools of this kind seem well adapted for scraping into regular shape the stems of arrows, or the shafts of spears, or for fashioning bone pins.

Mr. S. Andrew exhibited some relics from a funeral mound at Craig Neish, Port St. Mary.

Mr. J. Redford exhibited and presented to the Society a photograph of the Saxon cross in Bolton Church.

Mr. S. Jackson gave the following list of the bases of crosses found in the district of Garstang: Brunah Hill, near Garstang, one not far from the station; one at Cross Hill, near Street Bridge; one at Goosnargh, north side of Beaton Fell; one at Grisedale Lee, on the Roman road, now removed; one at Claughton; one near the Brockholes Arms, Garstang; one not far from the station at Leyland; one at the corner of School Lane, Walton-le-Dale; one at Halton; one at Broad Gate, Bleasdale, and one at the cross road, near Barnacre Lodge. He also gave drawings of figures sculptured on gravestones in Heysham Churchyard.

Mr. W. T. Browne exhibited some water-colour drawings of Turton, Clayton, and old houses in Manchester; one of the drawings by John Cozens, 1790.

Mr. Samuel Andrew read a paper on Copy Nook, Oldham. The original Copy Nook was evidently a large mound, which was removed during the Cotton Famine. It occupied the site of the present Mechanics' Institute at Werneth. The Manchester Scientific Students had claimed Copy Nook as an instance of early coal-getting, and Mr. H. T. Crofton had fixed the period of these early mining efforts in Roman times. When the mound was removed by Messrs. Platt Brothers, no traces of coal or coal cinders were discovered, but a great number of pits were found extending up the hill towards Werneth Hall Road, which were dug in bell-shaped form, the rims of each almost touching each other. There were said to have been about sixty of these pits in all. It was well known that pits had been found near Roman camps, but

what their use had been was uncertain. Some claimed them for mere ash middens. At Werneth Roman coins and a Roman patera had been found, some of them within half a mile of this place. Mr. Andrew could not say whether the pits had been dug for getting coal, although he showed a plan of the seams of coal, which outcrop at Werneth. A gentleman still living, who took great interest in the removal of the mound, doubted if the pits had been used for getting coals. The pits were filled up with broken pottery, and showed signs of fire, though not coal fires, burnt earth or clay being found in large quantity. Unfortunately, none of these potsherds had been preserved, the stuff being all carted away to find work for the cotton operatives during the Cotton Famine. Recently great light had been thrown on the abodes of the primeval inhabitants, and Mr. Andrew showed that these bell-shaped holes corresponded with the descriptions given of these primitive dwellings by both old and modern writers. Members of the same race as the ancient Britons still used these bell-shaped earth dwellings, which were entered from the top by a ladder, lateral shafts for cattle being driven underneath. The absolute proof of these pits being used as earth dwellings had departed with the rubbish carted away when the mound was removed. But there still remained the names of the places, which were of British origin, namely, Copy Nook and Werneth, "Nook" from "Cnwc," suggesting a rock-shelter, and "Werneth" from "Gwernydd," denoting the open field system.

Colonel Fishwick doubted Mr. Andrew's conclusions, and an interesting discussion ensued, in which Messrs. William Harrison, R. Langton, J. Taylor, and others took part.

Colonel Fishwick communicated the following, re-

ferring to Henry Sagar, mentioned in *Transactions of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society*, vol. x., p. 218: Depositions of Witnesses in a suit at Lancaster *inter* Mr. Henry Halsted clerk Ptiff and Rich. Townley Esq. Def. 29 March 1698 "James Sager deposith that he had known the way (in dispute thro' Habergham demesne to Hapton Tower) 45 years, having farmed ye Coalpit for 3 years; he did then see 'em (*i.e.*, the Towneley's servants and the Towneleys themselves) constantly ride down without any disturbance and yt his father being an hundred and five years of age and a neighbour did never know it in his long time to be closed." As neither baptism nor burial of any James Sager is to be found in the Burnley Register about the required time, but as the following entry occurs in the marriages it is probable that he lived in Hapton and would be baptised and buried at Padiham. "James Sager and Anna Heye of Hapton married December 3rd 1671."

Thursday, November 29th, 1894.

ENGLISH MEDIÆVAL SEALS.

A special meeting was held in the Manchester Town Hall, Professor W. Boyd Dawkins, F.S.A., presiding. The Rev. Dr. J. C. Cox, F.S.A., gave a lecture on English mediæval seals, which he illustrated by an excellent series of photographs thrown on the screen by the oxy-hydrogen lantern.

Dr. Cox remarked that the history of English mediæval seals yet remained to be written. Only one branch of the subject had been at all adequately dealt with, namely, the history of the great or royal seals of England, by Mr. Wyon. The late Mr. Laing, of Edinburgh, had brought out a work on Scottish seals some few years ago, but

much more was now known on the subject. English episcopal, monastic, private, heraldic, and municipal seals each deserved a monograph, for they bore most intimately upon the art, costume, customs, and history of the times in which they were made. The student had now to be content with searching into the subject at first hand for himself, and finding some help in a few scattered papers among the transactions of London or provincial archæological societies. The best of these was a paper on the seals of the English bishops, by Mr. W. H. St. John Hope, published in 1887 in the *Proceedings* of the Society of Antiquaries. Englishmen had reason to be proud of their seals, for the art they showed in the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth centuries was far better than anything to be discovered in continental seals of the like periods. All he could do that evening was to offer a few general observations on the subject, and then to say a little on particular branches of the question, illustrating them by lantern pictures of groups of seals of the different kinds, chosen from the best examples in the British Museum. After remarking on the materials of which seals and seal impressions were made, and the mode of attaching them to documents, Dr. Cox proceeded to describe and illustrate a selection from the royal seals of England. The earliest example of this class is that of Offa, King of Mercia, 757–796, an impression of which of the year 790 is preserved at Paris. At Paris also is preserved the seal of Edgar, King of East Anglia, 960, whilst at the British Museum is the lead bulla of Ceonwulf, King of Mercia, 800–810. Seals were shown and their characteristics enumerated of Edward the Confessor, William the Conqueror, William Rufus, John, Henry III., Edward I., Edward II., Edward III., Philip and Mary, and

Elizabeth. To these royal seals succeeded illustrations and descriptions of the curious use of antique classical gems in mediæval settings, some of the thirteenth century English bishops even incorporating in their official seals small gems, in which were depicted such objects as a Venus, a Ganymede, or a Satyr. This custom, both in private and official seals, prevailed in England from the twelfth to the fourteenth century. English heraldic seals were next shown, including those of Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester, and Edward I. as prince and heir apparent. The next group dealt with were Saxon and early monastic seals of the eleventh and twelfth centuries, including those of St. Cuthbert, Durham; St. Dunstan's, Winchester; and the abbeys of Sherborne, Bath, St. Albans, and Bury St. Edmunds. Later, monastic seals followed, and then an account of the development and decadence in the beautiful series pertaining to English prelates. Dr. Cox mentioned the Archbishop of York and the Bishop of Salisbury as two now on the episcopal bench who had reverted to excellent old examples and used worthy seals. Old municipal seals were divided into three main groups: (1) Heraldic, usually borrowed from some great local man or family; (2) castles, or rather fortified gateways, the usual form of an inland town seal; and (3) ships or boats, a common cognisance of our sea-board towns or ports. Occasionally they used the figures or emblem of the town's patron saint. The last picture thrown upon the screen was the present great seal of England, with the Queen supported by allegorical figures representing Justice and Religion. It was originally struck in 1837, and has since been twice renewed in duplicate, namely, in 1860 and in 1878. Dr. Cox remarked in conclusion that he was sure he was expressing everyone's opinion when he expressed a

hope that the day was far distant when the present great seal of the great and good woman, who had ruled over nine millions of square miles and three hundred millions of subjects for more than half a century. would have to be broken up. But when the day came he trusted that Edward VII. would revert to the best examples of ancient English seal making as models of what the great seal of a great nation should be.

Several matrices and impressions therefrom were exhibited by Mr. G. C. Yates, F.S.A. Major French showed a fine series of English seals collected by his father. Miss J. B. Strong sent a drawing of the seal of Walter Marshall, fourth Earl of Pembroke. On the motion of Colonel Fishwick, seconded by Mr. Nicholson, a cordial vote of thanks was given to Dr. Cox for his lecture.

Friday, December 7th, 1894.

The monthly meeting was held in the Chetham Library, Mr. William Harrison presiding.

The Rev. F. R. C. Hutton, of Bolton, read a paper on "The Churches of the Hambleton Hills," which he illustrated by some of his own original drawings.

Mr. W. E. A. Axon sent a paper (read in his absence by Mr. G. C. Yates) on "Visitations of the Plague in Lancashire and Cheshire." (See page 52.) Some interesting remarks were made by the Rev. E. F. Letts on this paper.

The following new members were elected: Norman Sheldon, Francis M. Jackson, Robert Falkner, and Miss Alice M. Stead.

EXHIBITS.

Mr. G. C. Yates, F.S.A.: Seventeenth century tokens of Chester, Ormskirk, Warrington, Liverpool, and one of

Bolton. *Obverse*, "Ralph Matther in Boulton. R.M.E. A bolt in a tun." *Reverse*, "Hester Matther in Boulton. His penny 1670." This token is not mentioned in the last edition of Boyne. Axehead, found by Sir John Evans in a barrow on the Downs, between Newhaven and Jelscombe, in 1866. An Irish flint flake, four and a quarter inches by two and a half inches.

Mr. T. Parker: Three pipe heads, *temp.* Charles I., found at Oldham.

Mr. R. Barber: Tea tray, with painting in oil of the Manchester Infirmary, about 1790 to 1800.

Mr. John Owen: Indenture of agreement, dated 18th April, 1724, between the churchwardens and overseers of Droylsden and Robert Hulme, of Blackley, the former of whom bind to the latter a poor boy named Otho Hulme, eight years of age, until he was twenty-four years old, paying with him twenty shillings for the first year, and ten shillings for the second, in order that he might learn the trade of a linen weaver; the master covenanting to give to the apprentice at Christmas, "if it should be demanded," the sum of sixpence, and to find him in food and apparel and "Shooes and Hatts." The signatories are Geo. and James Cheetham and Robert Hulme. Mr. Owen also exhibited extracts from the register of Middleton Church.

Sir William Cunliffe Brookes: Testimonial presented to him by the Manchester Corporation in recognition of his gift of the Lady Mayoress's chain.

Mr. Charles Madeley: Drawing of a stone axe-hammer from Harbarrow, Dalton-in-Furness, presented to the Warrington Museum in 1866.

Friday, January 11th, 1895.

The monthly meeting was held in the Chetham Library, Mr. J. Holme Nicholson, M.A., presiding.

Mr. Nathan Heywood exhibited a series of gold coins of Roman emperors, and Mr. S. Jackson a photograph of a quern found near Garstang.

Mr. G. C. Yates showed a collection of obsidian implements from Mexico, consisting of cores, flakes, scrapers, arrowheads, knives, and razors. Describing them, he said that out of this unpromising material the ancient Mexicans made the implements now exhibited and other things, some of great beauty, particularly the polished mirrors and curious masks of the human face. Cortes found the barbers at the great market busy shaving the natives with obsidian razors, and he and his men had experience of other uses of the same material in the flights of obsidian-headed arrows which "darkened the sky," as they said, and the more deadly wooden maces stuck all over with obsidian points, and of the priest's sacrificial knives. These things were not cut and polished, but made by chipping or cracking off pieces from a lump.

Mr. William Harrison read a paper on "Ancient Fords, Ferries, and Bridges in Lancashire." (See p. 1.)

An interesting discussion took place after the reading of the paper, in which Messrs. N. Heywood, A. Nicholson, the Chairman, and the Rev. E. F. Letts took part.

APPENDIX I.

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE ANTIQUITIES AND BIOGRAPHY, 1893 & 1894.

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OF THE FREE REFERENCE LIBRARY, MANCHESTER.

[I wish to acknowledge my indebtedness to Mr. Ernest Axon, compiler of the previous Bibliographies, for valued assistance and suggestions.]

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Baguley Hall, Manchester Cathedral, Chetham's Library (the Reading-room), Didsbury Parish Church, Gawthorpe Hall, Hoghton Tower, Hopwood Hall, Little Mitton Hall, Mobberley Church, Platt Chapel, Rufford Old Hall, Samlesbury Hall, Stonyhurst College, Tabley Old Hall.

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Vol. 38: Geffray Minshull or Mynshul, author, 1594?–1668; John Edward Nassau Molesworth, vicar of Rochdale, 1790–1877; William Nassau Molesworth, historian, 1816–1890; Thomas Molineux, stenographer, 1759–1850; Henry Mollineux, quaker, *d.* 1719; Adam de Molyneux, Moleyns, or Molins, bishop of Chichester, *d.* 1450; Sir Richard Molyneux, soldier, *d.* 1459; Sir Richard Molyneux, Viscount Maryborough, 1593–1636; Samuel Molyneux, astronomer and politician, 1689–1728; William Moorcroft, veterinary surgeon and traveller in Central Asia, 1765?–1825; Sir John Moore, admiral, 1718–1779; Sir Jonas Moore, mathematician, 1617–1679.

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APPENDIX II.

SUBJECT INDEX TO THE BIBLIOGRAPHY OF LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE ANTIQUITIES, 1893 & 1894.

CONTRACTIONS.—*M. F. & P., Manchester Faces and Places; M. W. T., Manchester Weekly Times; Chet. Soc., Chetham Society.*

Alderley Edge *M. W. T.* '93
Althorp Library *Credland*
Andrew (William) *Huntington*
Archæological Finds in Lancashire *Harrison*
Arnside Tower *Philips*
Ashton Nonconformist Churches *Nightingale*, Old Hall, *M. F. and P.* 4
Assheton Pedigree *Howard*
Astbury Church *Pullinger*
Aughton Annals *Newstead*
Authors, Manchester *Grindon*
Baguley Hall *M. F. and P.* 5
Barton-on-Irwell, Ancient Cross *Rowbotham*
Bayley Family of Manchester and Hope *E. Axon*
Besses-o'th'-Barn Band *Hampson*
Bibliography of L. and C. Antiquities 1892 *E. Axon*
Bidston Incumbents *Wirral N. and Q.*, Parish of, *Irvine*, Registers, *Wirral N. and Q.*
Birkenhead Priory, Masons' Marks *Rylands*
Black Death in Lancashire and Cheshire *Gasquet*
Blackburn Characters *Abram*
Blackrod Grammar School *Hampson*
Bobbin (Tim) *Collier*
Boggart Ho' Clough *M. W. T.* '93
Bold Hall *Philips, Rimmer*
Bolesworth Castle *Rimmer*
Booth Hall *M. F. and P.* 4
Boutflower (Dr. John) *Huntington*
Bowers (Dean) *Huntington*
Bradshaw Hall *M. F. and P.* 4
Brasses, Monumental, of Lancashire and Cheshire *Thornely*
Brereton (Rich.) Library *Axon*
Bright of Liverpool Pedigree *Howard*
Bucton *Andrew*
Burscough Priory, Masons' Marks *Rylands*
Bury, A Seventeenth Century Inquiry *Shaw*, and Hulme's Charity *Webb*, Cromptons *Hewitson*, in 1814-18 *Hewitson*, Simnel *Barlow*
Byrth Pedigree *Howard*
Calveley Hall *Rimmer*
Capesthorne Hall *M. F. and P.* 4
Carden Hall *Rimmer*
Carlyle in Manchester *Espinasse*
Cartmel Notes *Barber*
Cemeteries, Ancient, of Furness *Cowper*
Charlestown *M. F. and P.* 4
Cheadle Chronicles *Moss*

Cheeryble Brothers *Elliott*
Cheshire and Rebels of '45 *Hibbert*, Antiquities 1892 *E. Axon*, Books *Sutton*, Churches *Chet. Soc.* 32, Early Baptist Pilgrims *Mortimer*, Early Christian Monuments *Allen*, Kenyon Manuscripts *Kenyon*, Masons' Marks *Rylands*, Monumental Brasses *Thornely*, Names *Ebblewhite*, Old Halls *Philips*, Plundered Ministers *Record Soc.* 28, Salt Region *Baring-Gould*, Turnpike Roads *Harrison*, Two Deeds *Irvine*, Visitations, Disclaimers *Rylands*, Wills and Inventories *Chet. Soc.* 28
Chester Assay Office *Prior*, Cathedral Documentary History *Milne*, Cathedral Misericordes *Hughes*, Cathedral School *Milne*, City Companies *Taylor*, Diocese Child-Marriages &c. *Early Eng. Text Soc.* 108, Gild History *Hibbert*, Grosvenor Museum *Shrubsole*, Old St. Mary's Church *Rimmer*, Pemberton's Parlour *Hughes*, Plantagenet and Tudor *Morris*, Roman Hypocaust *Williams*, Sculptures of Roman Monuments *Cox*
Chetham Hospital *Browne*, Library *M. F. and P.* 4 and 5
Child-Marriage of second Viscount Molyneux *Earle*
Child-Marriages *Early Eng. Text Soc.* 108
Childwall Church, Pewholders in 1609 *Childwall*
Chowbent, Address to the Inhabitants *Leyland*
Church Plate *Lancashire*
Churches Cheshire *Chet. Soc.* 32, Lancashire *Chet. Soc.* 27
Clay (Dr. C.) *Clay*
Clayton Hall *Philips*
Cleworth Hall *Philips*
Composition Papers, Royalist *Record Soc.* 26
Cotton Famine and Darwen *Nichols*, Spinning *Mortimer*
Court Rolls of Little Crosby *Watts*
Crompton (Samuel) *Manch. Monthly*
Cromptons of Bury *Hewitson*
Cross Street Chapel *Manchester*
Crosses, Notes on *Rowbotham*
Crumpsall Hall *Philips*
Darcy Lever Old Hall *M. F. and P.* 4
Darwen and the Cotton Famine *Nichols*
Dean Row Chapel *Nicholson*
Delamere Forest *M. W. T.* '93
De Quincey (Thos.) *Manch. Monthly*
Deva, Origins of *Haverfield*
Didsbury Parish Church *M. F. and P.* 5
Dinkley Hall *Philips*
Disclaimers at the Heralds' Visitations *Rylands*
Dugdale Pedigree *Howard*
Dunham Park *M. F. and P.* 4
Earthworks, Ancient, of Furness *Cowper*
Eastham in 1778 *Wirral N. and Q.*
Eshelby Pedigree *Howard*
Etchells *Moss*
Fitton (Sir E.) Memorial Brass *Renaud*
Flint Implements in Wirral *Wirral N. and Q.*
Flints found in Wirral *Cox*
Font, Ancient, at Rochdale *Fishwick*
Fouldrey, Pile of *Philips*
Fraser (Bishop James) *Huntington*
Frodsham *M. W. T.* '93
Furness, Ancient Settlements &c. *Cowper*, Notes *Barber*
Galloway (John) *Galloway*
Gatley *Moss*
Garratt Hall *Philips*
Garston Hall *Philips*
Gawsworth *Manch. Monthly*
Gawthorpe Hall *M. F. and P.* 5
Gild History of Chester *Hibbert*
Gladstone (W. E.) Library *Wilkinson*

Goldsmiths' Halls *Prior*
Grant (William and Daniel) *Elliott*
Great Boughton in time of the Romans *Shrubsole*
Greater Manchester, Old *Crofton*
Greville Family *E. Axon*
Grosvenor Museum *Shrubsole*, Roman earthenware pipes *Shrubsole*
Hacking Hall *Philips*
Hale Wood, Hutt in *Philips*
Hamerton (P. G.) *Hamerton*
Handforth Hall *M. F. and P.* 4, *M. W. T.* '93
Handforth-cum-Bosden *Moss*
Hoghton Tower *M. F. and P.* 5
Holford Hall *Philips*
Hope, Bayley Family *E. Axon*
Hopwood Hall *M. F. and P.* 5
Hough End Hall *M. F. and P.* 4
Hulme's Charity and Bury *Webb*
Ince Hall *Philips*
Inventories Lanc. and Ches. *Chet. Soc.* 28
Ireland (Alex.) *Ireland*
Johnson of Eccleston Pedigree *Howard*
Johnson (Minor Canon) *Huntington*
Joynson Pedigree *Howard*
Kenyon Manuscripts *Kenyon*
Lakes, English, Literary Associations *Rawnsley*
Lancashire Ancient Religious Houses *Dolan*, and Rebels of '45 *Hibbert*, Antiquities 1892 *E. Axon*, Archæological Finds *Harrison*, Border *Manch. Monthly*, Church Plate *Lancashire*, Churches *Chet. Soc.* 27, Early Christian Monuments *Allen*, History *Baines*, History *Fishwick*, in Early Times *Manch. Monthly*, Independent College *M. F. and P.* 4, Independent College Jubilee *Thompson*, Kenyon Manuscripts *Kenyon*, Lay Subsidies *Record Soc.* 27, Masons' Marks *Rylands*, Ministers *Fishwick*, Monumental Brasses *Thornely*, Nonconformity *Nightingale* 93, North-of-the-Sands Archæological Survey *Ferguson*, Old Halls *Philips*, Plundered Ministers *Record Soc.* 28, Royalist Composition Papers *Record Soc.* 26, Topography and Genealogy *Sutton*, Turnpike Roads *Harrison*, Visitations Disclaimers *Rylands*, Wills and Inventories *Chet. Soc.* 28
Lancaster Church *Chet. Soc.* 31, Unitarian Chapel *Hewitson*
Langley (Cardinal) *Dean*
Lay Subsidies, Lancashire *Record Soc.* 27
Leaver (Thos.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 33
Lee (Bishop Prince) *Huntington*
Leland (John) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 33
Lever (Sir Ashton) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 33
Lever (Thos.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 33
Lewes (G. H.) in Manchester *Espinasse*
Lewis (Edward) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 33
Leycester (John) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 33
Leycester (Sir P.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 33
Lichfield Corvisors and Manchester Gilds *Crofton*
Lindow Common *Mortimer*
Lindsey (Theophilus) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 33
Lingard (F.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 33
Linton (W.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 33
Lister (Thos.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 33
Literature, Manchester *Grindon*
Little Crosby Court Rolls *Watts*
Little Mitton Hall *M. F. and P.* 5
Little Moreton Hall *M. W. T.* '93
Littledale Pedigree *Howard*
Littledale (Sir J.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 33
Littler (Sir J. H.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 33
Liverseege (H.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 33
Livesey (James) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 33
Livesey (Joseph) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 33

Liverpool Nonconform. Churches *Nightingale*, Sandemanians in *Gibson*
Lockett Pedigree *Howard*
Lodge (John) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 34
Long (Geo.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 34
Longworth (Maria T.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 34
Lonsdale (J.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 34
Lostock Hall *Philips*
Lowndes (T.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 34
Loyd (S. J.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 34
Lucas (L. A.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 34
Lushington (H.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 34
Lymm *M. W. T.* '93
M'Avoy (M.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 34
Macclesfield Pardon Brasses *Axon*
Maceroni (F.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 35
Mainwaring (M.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 35
Mainwaring (Sir P.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 35
Mainwaring (Sir T.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 35
Mallorie (T.) *Dict. Nat Biog.* 35
Mallory (T.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 35
Manchester, Bayley Family *E. Axon*, Cathedral *Blomfield, Brooke, Crowther, Evans, M. F. and P.* 5, *M. W. T.* '93, Cathedral, Mosley Brasses *Letts*, Churchwardens, List *Evans*, Court-Leet Records *Manch. Monthly*, Cross Street Chapel Bi-centenary *Manchester*, Enterprises of Corporation *Manchester*, Gilds and the Records of the Lichfield Corvisors *Crofton*, Literature and Authors *Grindon*, Nonconformist Churches *Nightingale*, Old and New *Shaw*, "Old Church" Worthies *Huntington*, Pardon Brasses *Axon*, Press *Manch. Monthly*, St. Ann's Church *M. F. and P.* 4, St. James's Church *M. F. and P.* 4, Ship Canal *Manchester*, Story of Bennett Street School *Milner*
Manchester College Oxford *Manchester*
Mangnall (R.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 36
Markland (J.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 36
Markland (J. H.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 36
Marple *Manch. Monthly*, Hall *M. F. and P.* 4
Marsden (J. B.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 36
Marsden (J. H.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 36
Marsh (G.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 36
Marsh (J. F.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 36
Marshall (T. F.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 36
Martindale (A.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 36
Martindale (M.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 36
Maryborough (Viscount) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 36
Mason (H.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 36
Masons' Marks in L. and C. *Rylands*
Masons' Marks in Wirral Churches *Cox*
Massey (Sir E.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 37
Mather (N.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 37
Mather (R.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 37
Mather (R. C.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 37
Mather (S.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 37
Mellor (Sir J.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 37
Meols Shore, Implements found *Potter*
Mercer (J.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 37
Meredith (Sir W.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 37
Middleton (Sir H.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 37
Middleton Church and Cardinal Langley *Dean*
Ministers, Lancashire, *Fishwick*, Plundered, Relief of, *Record Soc.* 28
Minshull (G.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 38
Misericordes in Chester Cathedral *Hughes*
Mitton Hall *Philips*
Mobberley *Mallory*, Church *M. F. and P.* 5
Mock Corporation of Sefton *Caröe*
Molesworth (J. E. N.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 38

Molesworth (W. N.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 38
Moleyns (A. de) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 38
Molineux (T.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 38
Molins (A. de) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 38
Mollineux (H.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 38
Molyneux Pedigree *Howard*
Molyneux (Viscount second) *Earle*
Molyneux (A. de) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 38
Molyneux (Sir R.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 38
Molyneux (S.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 38
Monuments, Early Christian, Lancashire and Cheshire *Allen*
Moorcroft (W.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 38
Moore (Sir J.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 38
Moore (Sir Jonas) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 38
Moreton (W.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 39
Morleys Hall *M. W. T.* 93
Mort (T. S.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 39
Mosley Family Brasses *Letts*
Mosley (N.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 39
Mosses (A.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 39
Mottershead (J.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 39
Mynshul (G.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 38
Nadin (J.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 40
Needham (Sir J.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 40
Needham (R.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 40
Neild (J.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 40
Neville (E.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 40
Newbold (T. J.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 40
Newton (T.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 40
Newton-in-Cartmel, Quaker meeting-house *Mortimer*
Nicholls (J. A.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 40
Nichols (Humphrey) *Huntington*
Nicholson (C.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 41
Nicholson (F.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 41
Nicholson (G.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 41
Nightingale (J.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 41
Nixon (Robt.) *M. W. T.* '93
Nowell (John) *Manch. Monthly*
Oldham Nonconformist Churches *Nightingale*
Openshaw Pedigree *Openshaw*
Ordsall Hall *Philips*
Ormerod Pedigree *Openshaw*
Ormskirk Church Masons' Marks *Rylands*
Overchurch *Cox*
Overstone (Baron), *see* Loyd (S. J.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 34
Overton *M. W. T.* '93
Pardon Brasses Manchester and Macclesfield *Axon*
Parkinson (Canon) *Huntington*
Peel or Kenyon Peel Hall *Philips*
Pemberton's Parlour *Hughes*
Pendle *M. W. T.* '93
Percival Pedigree *Howard*
Pilkington Family *Hampson*, *Pilkington*, Pedigree *Howard*
Pilkington (Geo.) *Huntington*
Place Names in Wirral *Irvine*
Platt Chapel *M. F. and P.* 5, Church *M. F. and P.* 4
Platt-Higgins Pedigree *Howard*
Prentice Pedigree *Howard*
Quakers, Deserted burying ground *Mortimer*
Racing Stable at Wallasey *Radcliffe*
Ramsbottom and the Cheeryble Brothers *Elliott*
Registers, Bidston *Wirral N. and Q.*
Religious Houses, Ancient, of Lancashire *Dolan*
Rivington History *Hampson*, Presbyterian Chapel *Thompson*
Rochdale *M. W. T.* '93, Ancient Font *Fishwick*, Pioneers, History *Holyoake*, Surnames *Fishwick*
Roman Coins at Simonswood *Hill*, Earthenware Pipes *Shrubsole*, Hypocaust at Chester *Williams*, Monuments, Sculptures *Cox*
Rossall School *Beechey*, *Rowbotham*, *Rossall*
Rossendale History *Newbigging*, Rambles *Mather*
Royalist Composition Papers *Record Soc.* 26
Rudyard Lake *M. W. T.* '93
Rufford Old Hall *M. F. and P.* 5, *Philips*
Runic Stone Overchurch *Cox*

Rushbearing *M. W. T.* '94
Rylands Pedigree *Howard*
Salford Ancient Court Records *Makinson*, Congregationalism *Nightingale*, Jubilee *Salford*, Manorial Records *Salford*
Samlesbury Hall *M. F. and P.* 5
Sandbach *M. W. T.* '93
Sandemanians *Gibson*
Saxon Cross at West Kirby *Cox*
Scarisbrick (E.) *Dict. Nat. Biog.* 40
Sefton descriptive and historical account *Caröe*
Settlements, Ancient, of Furness *Cowper*
Simnel, Bury *Barlow*
Simonswood, Discovery of Roman Coins *Hill*
Smith (John Stores) *Espinasse*
Smithells Hall *M. W. T.* '93
Southport Nonconform. Churches *Nightingale*
Speke Hall *Philips*, *Rimmer*
Stalybridge *Mortimer*
Stand Chapel Memorials *Herford*
Stanlaw *Wirral N. and Q.*
Stanlowe, Cell of, Goods 1537 *Stanlowe*
Stonyhurst College *M. F. and P.* 5, College Centenary Record *Gerard*
Strangwayes Family *Strangwayes*
Subsidies, Lay, Lancashire *Record Soc.* 27
Surnames, Rochdale *Fishwick*
Sutton (Dean Robert), Memorial Brass *Renaud*
Tabley Hall *M. W. T.* '93, Old Hall *M. F. and P.* 5
Tempest Pedigree *Howard*
Thurland Castle *Philips*
Thurstaston Rectors *Wirral N. and Q.*
Tissington MSS. *Hibbert*
Tonge Hall *Fishwick*
Towneleys of Towneley *Yates*
Trafford Hall and Park *M. W. T.* '93
Tudsberry Turner Pedigree *Howard*
Turnpike Roads of L. and C. *Harrison*
Turton Tower *M. F. and P.* 4, *Philips*
Twenebrokes Family *Glazebrook*
Upton Presbyterian Chapel *Wirral N. and Q.*
Urmston Hall *M. F. and P.* 4
Village Communities *Crofton*
Visitation of England and Wales *Howard*
Wakes *M. W. T.* '94
Wallasey, Account *Pritt*, Church in 1634 *Wirral N. and Q.*, Racing Stable *Radcliffe*
Wardley Hall *Philipe*
Warrington *Man. Monthly*, Church *Rimmer*
Waugh Edwin *Espinasse*, *Milner*
West Kirby Saxon Cross *Cox*
Whalley Abbey, Goods 1537 *Whalley*
Widnes Hall *Philips*
Wills, Lanc. and Ches. *Chet. Soc.* 28
Wirral Churches Marks *Cox*, Deanery *Wirral N. and Q.*, Disclaimers *Wirral N. and Q.*, Domesday Survey *Irvine*, Flints found in, *Cox*, *Wirral N. and Q.*, Place Names *Irvine*, *Wirral N. and Q.*, Worthies *Wirral N. and Q.*
Wolfenden (Jas.) *Manch. Monthly*
Wray (Canon) *Huntington*
Wrenbury *Rimmer*
Wythenshawe Hall *M. F. and P.* 4, *M. W. T.* '93
Yorkshire Border *Manch. Monthly*

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ANTIQUITATEM
BEDOLENT

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

THE Council of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society, in presenting their Twelfth Annual Report, have again to record that the work of the Society continues to progress steadily.

PUBLICATION.—Volume xi. of the *Transactions* of the Society was issued to members in October last. The Council regret the delay in publication, which arose from the difficulty in obtaining the illustrations for the volume. The complete way in which the principal papers have been illustrated will, the Council trust, amply compensate the members for the late issue.

MEMBERSHIP.—During the year sixteen new members have joined the Society; ten members have been lost by death, resignation, and other causes; the total number of members now on the roll is 322, made up as follows:—

Ordinary Members	272
Life Members	44
Honorary Members	6
	322

WINTER MEETINGS.—The monthly meetings of the Society, January to April and October to December, have been held as usual at the Chetham Library, and have been well attended. The titles of the papers and short communications are given in the following list:—

1894.
Jan. 12.—The Round Table. Mr. George Esdaile, C.E.
,, 12.—A Relic of Shakspere. Mr. R. Langton.
,, 12.—A Jacobean Mortar. Dr. Renaud, F.S.A.
,, 26.—Annual Meeting.
Feb. 2.—The Miserere Carvings at Malpas, Cheshire, and Gresford, Denbighshire. Mr. T. Cann Hughes, M.A.
,, 2.—The (so-called) Martyr's Stone at Dean and recent proceedings in relation thereto. Major G. J. French.
,, 2.—Reminiscences of Miss Emily Holt. Mr. C. T. Tallent-Bateman.
Mar. 2.—Warden Heyrick and his Brasses in Manchester Cathedral. Rev. E. F. Letts, M.A.
,, 2.—The Pre-Reformation Bell at Bradshaw. Mr. R. Langton.
,, 2.—Fresh Evidence of the Antiquity of Dun Ængus, Inishmore, Galway. Dr. H. Colley March, F.S.A.
,, 2.—On Certain Rock Markings in Galloway. Mr. Alex. Taylor.
April 6.—The Original Contract for Building Oldham Church (1476), and other Deeds, &c., relating to Oldham. Mr. J. P. Earwaker, M.A., F.S.A.
,, 6.—The Recently Discovered Stone Circles on Chetham's Close. Major G. J. French.
,, 6.—Reminiscences of Sandbach. Mrs. G. Linnæus Banks.
Oct. 12.—Opening Address. Professor W. Boyd Dawkins, M.A., F.R.S., F.S.A.
,, 12.—An Account of the Opening of a Large Tumulus near Stonyhurst. Rev. J. R. Luck, S.J.
,, 12.—The Oldest Church in Lancashire. Rev. Monsignor Gradwell.
Nov. 2.—The Churches of the Hambledon Hills, with Illustrations. Rev. F. R. C. Hutton.
,, 2.—Copy Nook, Oldham. Mr. S. Andrew.
Dec. 7.—The Plague in Lancashire and Cheshire. Mr. W. E. A. Axon.
1895.
Jan. 10.—Ancient Fords, Ferries, and Bridges in Lancashire. Mr. W. Harrison.

The annual soirée, usually held in November or December, has this year been postponed till February. A special meeting was, however, held at the Manchester

Town Hall, on November 29th, Professor W. Boyd Dawkins, F.R.S., presiding. On this occasion a lecture was given by the Rev. Dr. Cox, F.S.A., on "English Mediæval Seals," and was illustrated by a series of photographs shown on the screen by means of the oxy-hydrogen lantern. Interesting specimens of seals and matrices were exhibited by Major French, Miss Strong, and Mr. G. C. Yates.

SUMMER MEETINGS were held at the following places:—

May 3.—Didsbury.
June 16.—Ince Blundell Hall and Sephton Church.
July 7.—Birkenhead Priory and Bidston Church.
Aug. 18.—Bollington and Rainow.
Sept. 8.—Turton: Ancient Stone Circles on Chetham's Close.
Oct. 13.—Wardley Hall.

No meeting was held at Whitsuntide.

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—The year has been specially distinguished by the holding of the annual congress of the British Archæological Association, which occupied the week commencing on the 30th July. The necessary arrangements were made by a local executive committee, consisting almost entirely of members of this Society, and of which Messrs. J. Holme Nicholson and Geo. C. Yates acted as honorary local secretaries. On the invitation of the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of Manchester (Sir Anthony Marshall), who kindly presided over the committee, the members of the association and their friends met at a conversazione at the Town Hall on the evening of the 30th July. On the 3rd August a similar conversazione was held at the Peel Park Museum, on the invitation of the Mayor of Salford (Sir William Bailey). The day excursions included visits to Chester (where the members were entertained at luncheon in the Town Hall by Alderman Charles Brown), Whalley, the

Macclesfield and Congleton district (including Gawsworth, Marton, Astbury, and Little Moreton Hall), Nantwich, and Blackstone Edge. In the course of these excursions, and at the evening meetings, which were held at the Owens College, several papers of interest were read. A selection of these will be published in the *Transactions* of the Association.

SECTIONAL COMMITTEES.—(*a*) Archæological map: As mentioned in the last Report of the Council, the archæological survey of Lancashire was completed and despatched to London in the autumn of 1893. In due course it was communicated to the Society of Antiquaries at their meeting on the 1st February. A committee of that society, appointed with a view to secure uniformity of plan in the various county surveys, afterwards resolved upon a method differing in several respects from the one previously laid down. The draft map and index were accordingly returned, and, after the necessary alterations had been made, were again sent to London. They are now in the hands of the printers, and will, it is hoped, be published in *Archæologia* at an early date. The Council are arranging for members of this Society who may desire it to be supplied with copies on terms set forth in a circular recently issued. For the execution of this section of a great national undertaking we are almost entirely indebted to Mr. William Harrison, who has bestowed much time and labour on the task.

(*b*) The Ecclesiological Committee report that they have obtained in reply to their circular returns from a considerable number of the clergy of the two counties, some of them in a very complete state. From a large number of parishes the returns have not been sent in, or are too vague and incomplete to be of much use. There

can be no doubt that the publication by the Chetham Society of Sir Stephen Glynne's *Notes on Lancashire and Cheshire Churches*, edited and brought up to date by the Rev. Canon Atkinson, has to a large extent forestalled the work contemplated by the Committee, and this circumstance may also account for the absence of returns from many of the parishes. The Committee propose to analyse the returns they have received and compare them with the publications above mentioned, and they will then be in a position to report whether it will be worth while to proceed further with the work as at first proposed.

OBITUARY.—*Joseph Wood* died suddenly on 7th September, 1894, at his residence, 22, Victoria Road, Fallowfield, in his sixty-seventh year. He was formerly a timber merchant, but retired from business some years ago, and was a member of the Withington Local Board. He took a keen interest in all antiquarian matters, and was a constant attender of the meetings and excursions of the Society.

William Hodgkinson Guest, registrar of the Manchester District Registry of the High Court of Justice, died, unmarried, in his sixty-sixth year, on the 12th October, 1894. He was a son of the late Mr. Richard Guest, of Leigh, Lancashire, was educated at the Manchester Grammar School, and was admitted a solicitor in 1850, having served his articles with the late Mr. J. P. Aston. He took a keen interest in literature, and, besides collecting a large and choice library, was a member of various local literary societies. He was on the councils of the Manchester Literary Club and of the Field Naturalists' Society, one of the auditors of the Chetham Society, and an esteemed member of the

Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society. Some years ago he was president of the Manchester Law Association, and on the occasions of the visits of the Law Society to Manchester he was perhaps the most active of the local organising committee. He was one of the most genial and liberal of men, yet withal one of the most modest and retiring, and the amount of good which he did by stealth will never be known.

Charles Lister, registrar of the Manchester County Court, and an active justice of the peace for the city, died suddenly on Monday, 5th November, at his residence, Agden Hall, Lymm, aged fifty-three. Mr. Lister was admitted a solicitor in 1864, and in 1876 was appointed registrar of the Manchester County Court, at first in conjunction with the late Mr. Kay, and on the latter's death as sole registrar. Mr. Lister, as a justice, took special interest in the question of first offenders. On the establishment of county councils Mr. Lister was elected for the Lymm division, and he soon became an influential member of the Cheshire County Council. He leaves a widow and three children. Many members of the Society will remember with pleasure the visit to Agden Hall, in the year 1886, when Mr. Lister accorded them a hearty welcome to that ancient home.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.—The thanks of the Council are cordially given to the Feoffees of Chetham Hospital for the use of the meeting-rooms of the Council and the Society; to the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of Manchester for the use of his parlour for the special meeting on the 29th November; to the Rev. Dr. Cox for his interesting lecture on the same date, and to Major French, Miss Strong, and Mr. Yates for their exhibits on that occasion; to Mr. Weld Blundell for permission to

visit the hall and inspect the collection of ancient marbles at Ince Blundell; to Mr. W. F. Irvine and Mr. W. C. Gregson for their able guidance at Ince Blundell Hall and Sephton Church, and to Mr. E. W. Cox, of Bebbington, for similar assistance at Birkenhead.

The Council also desire to express their great obligations to the ladies and gentlemen, who aided the local executive committee in their arrangements for the visit of the British Archæological Association.

The Council have the satisfaction of again expressing, in no less emphatic terms than in previous years, their cordial thanks to Mr. C. W. Sutton for his onerous services as Editor of the last volume of *Transactions;* to Mr. Yates, the Honorary Secretary, whose long services have contributed so much to the success of the Society, and to Mr. T. Letherbrow, the Honorary Treasurer, for the efficient discharge of his important but irksome duties.

THE LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY IN ACCOUNT WITH T. LETHERBROW, TREASURER.

FROM 28TH JANUARY, 1894, TO 24TH JANUARY, 1895.

Jan. 28th, 1894.	£	s.	d.
To Balance from last year	131	7	9
Interest on Corporation Bonds, £200 at 3 per cent ...	5	16	3
Bank Interest	0	14	4
Six vols. *Transactions*	3	3	0
260 Subscriptions at 10s. 6d.	136	10	0
14 Entrance Fees	14	14	0
	£292	5	4

1894.	£	s.	d.
Cheque Book for Treasurer	0	4	2
Subscription to Salisbury and Wilts. Antiquarian Society	1	1	0
Subscription to Egyptian Exploration Fund	1	1	0
T. C. Hughes, Ecclesiological Sub-Committee	0	19	0
C. E. Sutton, Photographs for Annual Volume	0	10	0
J. T. Chapman, Lantern	1	5	0
Dr. Cox's Expenses	2	2	0
Bank Commission	2	2	0
Roberts, Printing	3	3	0
R. Gill „	5	0	0
Clerical Help	8	8	0
R. Gill, printing Vol. X.	97	12	3
Expenses at Summer Meetings	1	7	5
R. Gill's Account, Vol. XI.	100	0	0
Postages	12	0	6
Scrap Books	1	11	2
£100 Insurance	0	2	3
Expenses at Winter Meetings, two years	8	18	6
Balance	44	18	1
	£292	5	4

CAPITAL ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.
Balance	£44	18	1
Corporation Stock	200	0	0
Value of Volumes and *Transactions*	50	0	0
	£294	18	1

Audited and found correct, January 23rd, 1895,

JAS. P. WILKINSON
ALEX. TAYLOR.

RULES.

Revised January, 1891.

1. PREAMBLE.—This Society is instituted to examine, preserve, and illustrate ancient Monuments and Records, and to promote the study of History, Literature, Arts, Customs, and Traditions, with particular reference to the antiquities of Lancashire and Cheshire.

2. NAME, &c.—This Society shall be called the "LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY."

3. ELECTION OF MEMBERS.—Candidates for admission to the Society must be proposed by one member of the Society, and seconded by another. Applications for admission must be submitted in writing to the Council, who shall report to the next ordinary meeting the names of such candidates. At the next ordinary meeting thereafter following, the names of all the candidates so reported shall be put to the meeting for election as the first business following the reading and confirmation, or otherwise, of the minutes of the preceding meeting, and the election shall be determined by common assent or dissent, unless a ballot shall be called for in the case of any one or more of the candidates by any member then present. In case of ballot, one black ball in five shall exclude. During the period of the year when the ordinary meetings are suspended, the Council shall have power to invite to general meetings any candidate whom they have

resolved to recommend for election at the next ordinary meeting. Each new member shall have his election notified to him by the Honorary Secretary, and shall at the same time be furnished with a copy of the Rules, and be required to remit to the Treasurer, within two months after such notification, his entrance fee and subscription; and if the same shall be thereafter unpaid for more than two months, his name may be struck off the list of members unless he can justify the delay to the satisfaction of the Council. No new member shall participate in any of the advantages of the Society until he has paid his entrance fee and subscription. Each member shall be entitled to admission to all meetings of the Society, and to introduce a visitor, provided that the same person be not introduced to two ordinary or general meetings in the same year. Each member shall receive, free of charge, such ordinary publications of the Society as shall have been issued since the commencement of the year in which he shall have been elected, provided that he shall have paid all subscriptions then due from him. The Council shall have power to remove any name from the list of members on due cause being shown to them. Members wishing to resign at the termination of the year can do so by informing the Honorary Secretary, in writing, of their intention *on or before the 30th day of November*, in that year.

4. HONORARY MEMBERS.—The Council shall have the power of reccommending persons for election as honorary members.

5. HONORARY LOCAL SECRETARIES.—The Council shall have power to appoint any person Honorary Local Secretary whether he be a member or not, for the town or district wherein he may reside, in order to facilitate the collection of accurate information as to objects and discoveries of local interest.

6. SUBSCRIPTIONS.—An annual subscription of ten shlllings and sixpence shall be paid by each member. All such subscriptions shall be due in advance on the first day of January.

7. ENTRANCE FEE.—Each person on election shall pay an entrance fee of one guinea in addition to his first year's subscription.

8. LIFE MEMBERSHIP.—A payment of seven guineas shall constitute the composition for life membership, including the entrance fee.

9. GOVERNMENT.—The affairs of the Society shall be conducted by a Council, consisting of the President of the Society, not more than six Vice-Presidents, the Honorary Secretary, and Treasurer, and fifteen members elected out of the general body of the members. The Council shall retire annually, but the members of it shall be eligible for re-election. Any intermediate vacancy by death or retirement may be filled up by the Council. Four members of the Council to constitute a quorum. The Council shall meet at least four times yearly. A meeting may at any time be convened by the Honorary Secretary by direction of the President, or on the requisition of four members of the Council. Two Auditors shall be appointed by the members at the ordinary meeting next preceding the final meeting of the Session.

10. MODE OF ELECTING OFFICERS OTHERWISE THAN THE AUDITORS.—The Honorary Secretary shall send out notices convening the annual meeting, and with such notices enclose blank nomination papers of members to fill the vacancies in the Council and Officers, other than the Auditor. The said notice and nomination paper to be sent to each member twenty-one days prior to the annual meeting. The nomination paper shall be returned to the Secretary not less than seven days before the annual meeting, such paper being signed by the proposer and seconder. Should such nominations not be sufficient to fill the several offices becoming vacant, the Council shall nominate members to supply the remaining vacancies. A complete list shall be printed, and in case of a contest such list shall be used as a ballot paper.

11. SECTIONAL COMMITTEES.—The Council may from time to time appoint Sectional Committees, consisting of members of their own body and of such other members of the Society as they may think can, from their special knowledge, afford aid in such branches of archæology as the following: Pre-historic Remains. 2. British and Roman Antiquities. 3. Mediæval, Architectural, and other Remains. 4. Ancient Manners and Customs, Folk-Lore, History of Local Trades and Commerce. 5. Records, Deeds, and other MSS. 6. Numismatics. 7. Genealogy, Family History, and Heraldry. 8. Local Bibliography and Authorship.

12. DUTIES OF OFFICERS.—The duty of the President shall be to preside at the meetings of the Society, and to maintain order. His decision on all questions of precedence among speakers, and on all disputes which may arise during the meeting, to be absolute. In the absence of the President or Vice-Presidents, it shall be competent for the members present to elect a chairman. The Treasurer shall take charge of all moneys belonging to the Society, pay all accounts passed by the Council, and submit his accounts and books, duly audited, to the annual meeting, the same having been submitted to the meeting of the Council immediately preceding such annual meeting. The duties of the Honorary Secretary shall be to attend all meetings of the Council and Society, enter in detail, as far as practicable, the proceedings at each meeting, to conduct the correspondence, preserve all letters received, and convene all meetings by circular, if requisite. He shall also prepare and present to the Council a Report of the year's work, and, after confirmation by the Council, shall read the same to the members at the annual meeting.

13. ANNUAL MEETING.—The annual meeting of the Society shall be held in the last week of January.

14. ORDINARY MEETINGS.—Ordinary meetings shall be held in Manchester at 6-15 p.m., on the *first Friday* of each month, from *October* to *April*, for the reading of papers, the

exhibition of objects of antiquity, and the discussion of subjects connected therewith.

15. GENERAL MEETINGS.—The Council may, from time to time, convene general meetings at different places rendered interesting by their antiquities, architecture, or historic associations. The work of these meetings shall include papers, addresses, exhibitions, excavations, and any other practicable means shall be adopted for the elucidation of the history and antiquities of the locality visited.

16.—EXPLORATION AND EXCAVATION.—The Council may, from time to time, make grants of money towards the cost of excavating and exploring, and for the general objects of the Society.

17. PUBLICATIONS.—Original papers and ancient documents communicated to the Society may be published in such manner as the Council shall from time to time determine. Back volumes of the *Transactions* and other publications of the Society remaining in stock may be purchased by any member of the Society at such prices as the Council shall determine.

18. PROPERTY.—The property of the Society shall be vested in the names of three Trustees to be chosen by the Council.

19. INTERPRETATION CLAUSE.—In these Rules the masculine shall include the feminine gender.

20. ALTERATION OF RULES.—These Rules shall not be altered except by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting at the annual or at a special meeting convened for that purpose. Fourteen days' notice of such intended alteration is to be given to every member of the Society.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

The * denotes a Life Member.
The † denotes an Honorary Member.

Date of Election.	
December 7th, 1888	Abraham, Miss E. C., Grassendale Park, near Liverpool
September 4th, 1883	Adshead, G. H., Fern Villas, Pendleton
March 21st, 1883	Agnew, W., J.P., Summerhill, Pendleton
June 17th, 1884	Ainsworth, Mrs. Frank, Lostock Dene, Lostock, Bolton
	Albiston, Miss, Mount Heaton, Heaton Mersey
November 4th, 1892	Allen, Rev. Geo., M.A., Shaw, Oldham
September 4th, 1883	Andrew, Frank, J.P., Chester Square, Ashton-under-Lyne
June 11th, 1886	Andrew, J. D., Town Hall, Ardwick
July 25th, 1885	Andrew, James, The Avenue, Patricroft
July 25th, 1885	Andrew, James Lawton, M.D., Heaton Norris
September 4th, 1883	Andrew, Samuel, St. John's Terrace, Hey Lees, Oldham
March 21st, 1883	Anson, Ven. Archdeacon G. H. G., M.A., Birch Rectory, Rusholme
October 8th, 1886	Arning, C. H., West View, Victoria Park
March 21st, 1883	Arnold, W. T., M.A., 75, Nelson Street, Manchester
April 15th, 1885	*Ashworth, Edmond, J.P., Egerton Hall, Bolton-le-Moors.
December, 4th, 1885	Ashworth, Joseph, Albion Place, Walmersley Road, Bury
April 14th, 1885	Atkinson, Rev. Canon, B.D., Bolton
November 5th 1886	Attkins, Edgar, 57, Camp Street, Broughton
October 12th, 1888	Axon, Ernest, Free Reference Library, Manchester
March 21st, 1883	Axon, W. E. A., M.R.S.L., 47, Derby Street, Moss Side
March 5th, 1886	Bagshaw, Thomas, Eccles New Road, Salford
March 21st, 1883	*Bailey, Sir W. H., Sale Hall, Cheshire

March 21st, 1883	Baillie, Edmund J., F.L.S., Chester
October 10th, 1890	Ball, William, Blackfriars Street, Manchester
November 3rd, 1893	†Banks, Mrs. G. Linnæus, 34, Fassett Square, Dalston, London
February 7th, 1890	Barber, Robert, Winnats Knoll, Prestwich
January 11th, 1884	Barlow, John Robert, Greenthorne, Edgworth, Bolton
June 13th, 1885	Barlow, Miss Annie E. F., Greenthorne, Bolton
March 21st, 1883	Barraclough, Thomas, C.E., 20, Bucklersbury, London
March 21st, 1883	Bateman, C. T. Tallent, Cromwell Road, Stretford
April 14th, 1885	Baugh, Joseph, Edendale, Whalley Range
January 7th, 1887	Baugh, Mrs., Edendale, Whalley Range
January 7th, 1887	*Bayley, Rev. C. J., M.A., Ambleside
July 30th, 1885	Bayley, Charles W., 5, Polygon, Eccles
	Baynes, Fred., Samlsbury Hall, Preston
June 26th, 1883	Baynton, Alfred, Stamford Villas, Heaton Chapel
December 1st, 1893	Beaumont, Jas. W., Fulshaw, Wilmslow
January 8th, 1892	Beckett, J. M., Newstead, Buxton
October 7th, 1892	Bellamy, C. H., F.R.G.S., Belmont, Brook Road, Heaton Chapel
January 29th, 1885	Berry, Charles F. Walton, 153, Moss Lane East, Moss Side
December 7th, 1883	Berry, James, Mayfield, Grimsargh, Preston
July 31st, 1886	Booth, James, The Avenue, Patricroft
March 7th, 1890	Bowden, Daniel, The Grove, Oldfield Road, Altrincham
September 4th, 1883	Bowden, William, Gorsefield, Patricroft
June 26th, 1883	Bradsell, B. J. T., 12, Oswald Street, Hulme
March 21st, 1883	Bridgen, Thomas Edward, Oaklynne, Fallowfield (deceased)
November 5th, 1886	Brimelow, William, 153, Park Road, Bolton
May 7th 1885	*Brockholes, W. Fitzherbert, J.P., Claughton Hall, Claughton-on-Brock, Garstang
October 7th, 1887	Brooke, Alexander, Muswell Hill Road, Highgate
September 28th, 1883	Brooke, John, A.R.I.B.A., 18, Exchange Street, Manchester
March, 21st, 1883	Brooks, Sir William Cunliffe, Bart., F.S.A., Barlow Hall, Manchester
October 10th, 1890	†Browne, Walter T., Chetham Hospital, Manchester
March 5th, 1886	Buckley, George F., Linfitts House, Delph, Oldham
September 26th, 1889	Burgess, John, Shaftsbury House, Cheadle Hulme
December 2nd, 1887	*Butcher, S. F., Bury
November 6th, 1892	Bourke, Walter L., Worsley Old Hall
March 21st, 1883	Carington, H. H. Smith, Stanley Grove, Oxford
May 2nd, 1885	Carr William, The Hollies, Newton Heath

October 8th, 1886	*Chesson, Rev. William H., Alnwick, Northumberland
January 23rd, 1893	Chorlton, Jno. Clayton, The Priory, Didsbury
March 21st, 1883	Christie, Richard Copley, M.A., Ribsden, Bagshot, Surrey
March 21st, 1883	Churchill, W. S., 24, Birch Lane, Manchester
June 11th, 1886	Clarke, Dr. W. H., Park Green, Macclesfield
March 2nd, 1894	Claye, Herbert S., 259, Park Lane, Macclesfield
December 3rd, 1886	*Collier, Edward, 1, Heather Bank, Moss Lane East
January 11th, 1884	Collmann, Charles, Elmhurst, Ellesmere Park, Eccles
December 1st, 1893	Cooper, Thos., Mossley House, Congleton
March 21st, 1883	Copinger, W. A., LL.D., F.S.A., The Priory, Manchester
November 7th, 1884	Cowell, P., Free Library, Liverpool
January 7th, 1887	Cox, George F., 26, Cathedral Yard, Manchester
March 21st, 1883	†Crawford and Balcarres, The Right Hon. the Earl of, F.R.S., F.S.A., F.R.A.S., Haigh Hall, Wigan
March 21st, 1883	Creeke, Major A. B., Westwood, Burnley
March 21st, 1883	Crofton, Rev. Addison, M.A., Linton, Settle, Yorks.
March 21st, 1883	Crofton, H. T., Manor House, Wilmslow Road, Didsbury
October 8th, 1886	*Crompton, Alfred, jun., Dunsters, Bury
October 10th, 1890	Cunliffe, William, West Bank, Gilnow Park, Bolton
October 7th, 1887	Curnick, H. D., Glendale, Alderley Edge
March 21st, 1883	Darbishire, R. D., B.A., F.S.A., Victoria Park, Manchester
March 21st, 1883	Darbyshire, Alfred, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., Brazenose Street, Manchester
September 28th, 1883	*Dauntesey, Robert, Agecroft Hall, Manchester
March 21st, 1883	Dawkins, Professor William Boyd, F.R.S., F.S.A., Woodhurst, Fallowfield
March 21st, 1883	Dawkins, Mrs., Woodhurst, Fallowfield
April 1st, 1887	De Trafford, Sir Humphrey F., Bart., Trafford Park, Manchester
September 26th, 1889	Dean, John, 31, Market Place, Middleton
November 2nd, 1883	Dearden, J. Griffith, Walcot Hall, Stamford
September 26th, 1889	Dehn, Rudolph, Olga Villa, Victoria Park
March 21st, 1883	*Devonshire, His Grace the Duke of, K.G., D.C.L., F.R.S., F.S.A., Devonshire House, Piccadilly, London
May 4th, 1883	Doody, C. C., Cannon Street, Manchester (deceased)
January 15th, 1886	Duncan, James, M.B., 24, Richmond Street, Ashton-under-Lyne

March 21st, 1883	Earwaker, J.P., M.A., F.S.A., Pensarn, Abergele (deceased)
October 8th, 1886	*Eastwood, J. A., 49, Princess Street, Manchester
January 29th, 1885	Ecroyd, William, Spring Cottage, Burnley
November 3rd, 1893	Edelsten, Jno. A., 31, Bold Street, Warrington
March 21st, 1883	*Egerton of Tatton, Right Hon. the Lord, F.S.A., Tatton Park, Knutsford
January 8th, 1892	Elgood, Jno. G., Swiss Cottage, Langham Road, Bowdon (deceased)
June 11th, 1886	*Ermen, Henry E., Rose Bank, Bolton Road, Pendleton
March 21st, 1883	Esdaile, George, C.E., The Old Rectory, Platt Lane, Rusholme
December 16th, 1889	Estcourt, Charles, F.C.S., 20, Albert Square, Manchester
March 21st, 1883	*Evans, Sir John, K.C.B., D.C.L., F.R.S., F.S.A., Nash Mills, Hemel Hempstead
May 4th, 1883	Faithwaite, J. R., Manchester and Salford Bank, Mosley Street
December 7th, 1895	Faulkner, Robert, Ellan Brook, Brooklands
	Fearnhead, Joseph, 1, Crysus Street, Bolton
December 5th, 1884	Finney, James, Solicitor, Bolton
March 21st, 1883	Fishwick, Lieut.-Col. Henry, F.S.A., The Height, Rochdale
July 31st, 1886	Freeman, R. Knill, East View, Haulgh, Bolton
February 6th, 1885	French, Gilbert J., Thornydikes, Bolton
June 13th, 1885	French, Mrs., Bolton
June 13th, 1885	French, Miss K., 36, Part Street, Southport
December 9th, 1886	*Frost, Robert, B.Sc., Bright Side, Altrincham
May 4th, 1883	Gadd, Very Rev. Monsignor, St. Chad's, Manchester
March 21st, 1883	Gill, Richard, 12, Tib Lane, Cross Street, Manchester
December 2nd, 1887	Gillibrand, W., M.R.C.S., Parkfield House, Chorley Road, Bolton
May 4th, 1883	Goodyear, Charles, 39, Lincroft Street, Moss Side
December 7th, 1895	Gore, Rev. G. Perry, M.A., Vicar of St. Mary's, Oldham
May 7th, 1885	Gradwell, Very Rev. Mgr., Claughton-on-Brock, Garstang
January 11th, 1884	Grafton, Miss, Heysham Hall, Lancaster
September 18th, 1885	Greenhough, R., jun., Church Street, Leigh
April 2nd, 1886	*Grimshaw, William, Sale
July 25th, 1885	*Guest, William H., 57, King Street, Manchester (deceased)
June 11th, 1886	Güterbock, Alfred, Newington, Bowdon

March 21st, 1883	Hadfield, E., Barr Hill, Pendleton
November 7th, 1884	Hall, James, Edale, Broad Road, Sale
March 21st, 1883	Hall, Major G. W., Town Hall, Salford
October 10th, 1890	Hall, Oscar S., The Derbys, Bury
November 6th, 1892	Hamilton, Thomas, The Elms, Altrincham
October 8th, 1886	Hand, Thomas W., Free Library, Oldham
December 5th, 1890	Hanson, George, Free Library, Rochdale
December 21st, 1892	Hardcastle, Thomas, Bradshaw Hall, Bolton
September 2nd, 1889	Harker, Robert B., Carr End, Navigation Road, Altrincham
November 2nd, 1888	Harper, Jno., 25, Victoria Road, Fallowfield
February 6th, 1885	Harrison, William, 112, Lansdowne Road, Didsbury
March 31st, 1885	*Hawkesbury, Right Hon. the Lord, F.S.A., Cockglode, Ollerton, Newark
March 21st, 1883	Haworth, S. E., Worsley Road, Swinton
June 13th, 1885	Heape, Charles, Glebe House, Rochdale
December 7th, 1883	Heape, Joseph R., Rochdale
October 10th, 1890	Heape, Robert Taylor, Halfacre, Rochdale
March 21st, 1883	Hearle, Rev. G. W., M.A., Newburgh, Wigan
October 7th, 1892	Henderson, Alfred, Brackley Villas, Moses Gate
October 7th, 1892	Henderson, Geo., 18, Nelson Square, Bolton
June 11th, 1886	Herford, Rev. P. M., M.A., The Rectory, Trinity Road, Edinburgh
September 4th, 1883	Hewitson, Anthony, Holmleigh, Moorlands Road, Dewsbury
December 6th, 1889	Heywood, Rev. Canon H. R., Swinton (deceased)
March 21st, 1883	Heywood, Nathan, 3, Mount Street, Manchester
June 17th, 1884	Hodgson, Edwin, 4, Worsley Grove, Stockport Road, Levenshulme
October 8th, 1886	*Holden, Arthur T., Waterfoot, Heaton, Bolton
January 26th, 1894	Hope, Thomas Hoyle, The Laburnums, Atherton
December 7th, 1888	Hornby, Miss Clara, 21, Osborne Terrace, Hale Road, Bowdon
January 11th, 1884	*Houldsworth, Sir W. H., M.P., Knutsford
March 7th, 1884	Howorth, Daniel F., F.S.A. Scot., Grafton Place, Ashton-under-Lyne
March 21st, 1883	Howorth, Sir Henry H., M.P., F.R.S., F.S.A., 30, Collingham Place, Cromwell Road, London, S.W.
February 1st, 1895	Hudson, Rev. H. A., Heywood Street, Cheetham Hill
March 4th, 1887	Hughes, T. Cann, M.A., Town Hall, Manchester
March 21st, 1883	Hulton, W. W. B., J.P., Hulton Park, Bolton
December 2nd, 1887	Hutton, Rev. F. R. C., 28, Chorley New Road, Bolton
November 3rd, 1893	Isherwood, Miss Marion P.
June 11th, 1886	Ives, Miss, 77, Adswood Lane, Stockport

November 5th, 1886	Jackson, Miss E. S., Burnside, Calder Vale, Garstang
December 7th, 1894	Jackson, Francis M., The Red House, Alderley Edge
September 26th, 1889	Jackson, Jno. R., 35, Claremont Road, Alexandra Park
May 4th, 1883	Jackson, S., Burnside, Calder Vale, Garstang
April 11th, 1890	Johnson, David, Albion House, Old Trafford
September 28th, 1883	Johnson, J. H., F.G.S., 73, Albert Road, Southport
May 2nd, 1885	*Johnson, William, 91, Hulton Street, Moss Side
January 21st, 1886	Johnson, Mrs., 91, Hulton Street, Moss Side
March 4th, 1887	Johnstone, Rev. Thomas Boston, M.A., 116, Chorley New Road, Bolton
March 21st, 1883	Kay, J. Taylor, South View, Platt Lane, Rusholme
May 2nd, 1885	Kay, James, Lark Hill, Timperley
June 11th, 1886	*Kay, Thomas, J.P., Moorfield, Stockport
October 10th, 1890	*Kirkham, William H., Hanmer Lea, Heaton Moor
March 21st, 1883	Kirkman, William Wright, 8, John Dalton Street, Manchester
January 26th, 1894	Knott, J. R., 103, Union Street, Oldham
January 10th, 1890	Kynnersley, Thomas Frederick, Leighton Hall, Ironbridge, Salop
March 7th, 1890	Lancaster, Alfred, Free Library, St. Helens
March 21st, 1883	Langton, Robert, F.R.H.S., Bexley, Kent
October 12th, 1888	Larmuth, George H., F.S.I., The Grange, Handforth
March 21st, 1883	*Lathom, Right Hon. the Earl of, 41, Portland Place, W.
July 18th, 1885	Lawton, Mrs., Stamford Villa, Altrincham
January 31st, 1890	Laycock, Joseph, Brown Street, Manchester
March 21st, 1883	Leech, Professor D. J., M.D., F.R.C.P., Elm House, Whalley Range
March 21st, 1883	Leech, Mrs., Elm House, Whalley Range
December 7th, 1883	Leech, Miss M. L., Reede House, Flixton
April 26th, 1889	*Lees, John W., Greengate, Chadderton, Oldham
May 4th, 1883	Lees, William, Egerton Villa, Heywood
December 4th, 1885	Letherbrow, Thomas, Alderley Edge
March 21st, 1883	Letts, Rev. E. F., M.A., The Rectory, Newton Heath
June 11th, 1886	*Lever, Ellis
December 7th, 1888	Little, Rev. C. E., Oldham
November 4th, 1892	Lobenhoffer, Prof. Carl, Sunny Bank, Wilmslow
March 7th, 1890	Lomax, Rev. John, M.A., Cheetham Hill
March 21st, 1883	Lord, H., 42, John Dalton Street, Manchester
January 11th, 1889	Lowe, Rev. Charles, St. John's Rectory, Cheetham Hill

September 4th, 1883	*Lubbock, Sir John, Bart., M.P., F.S.A., 15, Lombard Street, London
March 3rd, 1893	Maclure, Very Rev. E. C., D.D., The Deanery, Manchester
	Magsen, John, 15, Watling Street, Manchester
August 15th, 1885	*Makinson, W. G., Montrose Villa, Ashton-on-Ribble
March 21st, 1883	March, H. Colley, M.D., F.S.A., 2, West Street, Rochdale
May 20th, 1885	March, Mrs., 2, West Street, Rochdale
March 21st, 1883	Martin, William Young, M.D., J.P., The Limes, Walkden, Bolton
November 5th, 1886	Massey, Arthur W., 27, Ackers Street, Chorlton-on-Medlock
	Mayer, Charles, Architect, John Dalton Street, Manchester
September 26th, 1889	Milne, James D., Lomond Ville, Chorlton-cum-Hardy
March 21st, 1883	Milner, George, J.P., 59, Mosley Street, Manchester
January 10th, 1890	Moeller, Victor, Derby Road, Fallowfield
October 10th, 1890	Molyneux, Colonel, J.P., F.R.H.S., Warren Lodge, Wokingham, Berks.
March 21st, 1883	Moorhouse, Frederick, Kingston Mount, Didsbury
March 21st, 1883	Morris, Claude J., The Mount, Altrincham
January 8th, 1892	Moss, Fletcher, Old Parsonage, Didsbury
	Naylor, James, 15, Queen's Road, Didsbury
January 27th, 1893	Neal, Thos. Dale, Wilmslow
October 7th, 1887	*Neville, Charles, Bramhall Hall, Stockport
November 4th, 1892	Newman, Thos., Atkinson Free Library, Southport
March 21st, 1883	Newton, Miss, Holly House, Flixton
June 26th, 1883	Newton, C. E., Timperley Lane, Altrincham
September 26th, 1889	Newton, The Lord, Lyme Park, Disley
September 4th, 1883	Nicholson, Albert, The Old Manor House, Sale
March 21st, 1883	Nicholson, J. Holme, M.A., Whitefield, Wilmslow
January 26th, 1894	Norbury, Jonathan, Ramsey, Isle of Man
January 26th, 1894	Norbury, Mrs., Ramsey, Isle of Man
March 21st, 1883	Norbury, William, Rotherwood, Wilmslow
	Ormerod, Ben., Sandewood, Pendlebury
January 31st, 1890	Ormerod, J. P., Castleton, near Manchester
October 10th, 1890	Ormerod, Thomas P., Castleton, Manchester
April 16th, 1886	†Owen, John, 448, Hempshaw Lane, Stockport
April 2nd, 1886	*Owen, Major-General C. H., R.A., Alton Lodge, Hartley Wintney, Winchfield, Hants
March 21st, 1883	Oxley, H. M., Deansgate, Manchester
March 21st, 1883	Oxley, Thomas, Helme House, Ellesmere Park, Eccles

April 26th, 1889	Oxley, Mrs., Helme House, Ellesmere Park, Eccles
July 26th, 1884	Paley, E. G., F.R.I.B.A., Lancaster (deceased)
January 11th, 1895	Parker, John, Springfield Lane Oil Works, Salford
January 26th, 1894	Parker, Thos., 45, Lower Mosley Street, Manchester
November 3rd, 1893	Patterson, Rev. H. S., M.A., Vicar of Dean
March 21st, 1883	Pearson, George, Southside, Wilmslow
October 8th, 1886	Pearson, Henry, Union Bank, Salford
September 26th, 1889	Pearson, Joseph, Marlborough Terrace, Windsor Bridge, Salford
January 27th, 1893	Pearson, Mrs., Marlborough Terrace, Windsor Bridge, Salford
May 4th, 1883	Peel, Robert, Fulshaw Avenue, Wilmslow
October 8th, 1886	Pike, C. F., Bella Vista, Lostock Road, Urmston
March 21st, 1883	Pocklington, Rev. J. N., M.A., Owen House, Mobberley
July 25th, 1885	Posnett, W. A., Park View, Chorley, Lancashire
April 7th, 1893	Postlethwaite, G., B.A., Grammar School
March 5th, 1886	Potter, Robert Cecil, Heald Grove, Rusholme
October 7th, 1887	Pullinger, William, Ash Lea, Sandy Lane, Romiley
April 2nd, 1886	Radford, W. Harold, The Haven, Whalley Range
December 7th, 1888	Redford, Walter J., Spring Place, Great Lever
April 14th, 1885	Redhead, R. Milne, F.L.S., Holden Clough, Bolton-by-Bowland, Clitheroe
October 17th, 1884	Reid, David, Bower Bank, Bowdon
March 21st, 1883	Renaud, Frank, M.D., F.S.A., Hillside, Alderley Edge
May 4th, 1883	Reynolds, Rev. G. W., M.A., Elwick Hall, Castle Eden, Durham
December 7th, 1883	Rigg, George Wilson, Police Street, Manchester
September 29th, 1884	Rimmer, John H., M.A., LL.M., Madeley, Newcastle, Staff.
November 13th, 1890	Rivers, General Pitt, F.R.S., F.S.A., Rushmore, Salisbury
December 22nd, 1884	Robinow, Max, Hawthornden House, Palatine Road, Didsbury
May 2nd, 1885	*Robinson, J. B., F.R.M.S., Devonshire House, Mossley
September 4th, 1883	Robinson, John, Victoria House, Albert Street, Eccles
December 21st, 1892	Robinson, Captain Marshall, The Park, Sharples
November 3rd, 1893	Robinson, W. H., 75, Bridge Street, Manchester
February 4th, 1887	Roeder, Charles, Emsee Cottage, Amhurst Street, Derby Road, Fallowfield
July 26th, 1884	*Roper, W. O., Lancaster
May 4th, 1883	Rowbotham, G. H., Manchester and Salford Bank Limited

April 22nd, 1884	Rudd, John, Sale Road, Northenden
March 21st, 1883	Russell, Rev. E. J., M.A., Todmorden
March 21st, 1883	*Rylands, Thomas G., F.S.A., Highfield, Thelwall, Warrington
May 4th, 1883	Sandbach, J. E., Wilbraham Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy
April 14th, 1885	*Schwabe, Charles, The Orchards, Ashton-upon-Mersey
January 26th, 1894	Scott, Arthur R., St. John's Avenue, Longsight
October 9th, 1885	Scott, E. D., Greenbank, Ashton-upon-Mersey
June 26th, 1883	Scott, Fred, 33, Brazenose Street, Manchester
November 3rd, 1893	Sever, W. M., Fern Bank, Conway
January 20th, 1893	Seville, Richard Taylor, Carrhill Road, Mossley
March 21st, 1883	Shaw, Giles, 72, Manchester Street, Oldham
November 7th, 1884	Shaw, James, 95, Brookshaw Terrace, Walmersley Road, Bury
September 28th, 1894	Sheldon, Norman, 12, St. Paul's Road, Kersal, Manchester
November 18th, 1884	Sherriff, Herbert, Dean's Villa, Swinton
March 21st, 1883	Smith, C. C., Lime Hurst, Knowle, Warwick
March 7th, 1884	Smith, David, J.P., Highfield, Schools Hill, Cheadle
May 22nd, 1866	Smith, Fredk. Ford, Harrington Road, Dunham Massey (deceased)
October 8th, 1886	Smith, Thomas E., 189, St. George's Road, Bolton
June 11th, 1886	Smith, William Ford, Woodstock, Didsbury
October 7th, 1887	Smith, William, M.D., Eccles
January 11th, 1889	Smith, Wm. Jas., 71, Lord Street, Leigh
April 5th, 1889	Smithies, Harry, 21, Rectory Road, Crumpsall
October 7th, 1887	Southam, George Armitage, Claremont Cottage, Irlams-o'th'-Height, Manchester
March 21st, 1883	Standring, Alfred, LL.M., M.A., Dunwood Hall, near Endon, Stoke-on-Trent
March 21st, 1883	Stanning, Rev. J. H., M.A., Leigh Vicarage, Lancashire
July 26th, 1884	*Storey, Herbert L., Lancaster
October 10th, 1890	Sutcliffe, Jno., 28, Duke Street, Southport
March 21st, 1883	†Sutton, Charles W., 7, Willow Bank, Moss Lane East, Manchester
October 12th, 1894	Stead, Alice M., 23, Gloucester Road, Southport
	Stead, Edward F., 10, Adelaide Terrace, Waterloo, Liverpool
January 8th, 1892	Talent, Jno., The Cliff, Higher Broughton
April 2nd, 1886	*Tatham, Leonard, M.A., 1, St. James's Square, Manchester
October 12th, 1888	Tatton, Thomas E., Wythenshawe Hall
November 7th, 1884	Taylor, Alexander, St. Mary's Place, Bury

January 29th, 1892	Taylor, George, Buena Vista, Fallowfield
March 21st, 1883	Taylor, Henry, Braeside, Tunbridge Wells
	Taylor, Isaac, Stanford, Rusholme
March 21st, 1883	Taylor, Joshua, 277, Moorside, Droylsden
February 7th, 1890	Taylor, William, 76, Chorley Old Road, Bolton
December 6th, 1889	Teggin, William, Springfield Works, Salford
October 12th, 1888	Thomasson, J. S., 9a, St. Peter's Square
May 4th, 1883	Thorp, J. Walter H., Jordan Gate House, Macclesfield
March 21st, 1883	Tonge, Rev. Canon Richard, M.A., Wilbraham Road, Chorlton-Cum-Hardy (deceased)
June 30th, 1885	*Trappes, Chas. B., J.P., Stanley House, Clitheroe
October 8th, 1886	*Tristram, Wm. H., Darcy Lever Hall, Bolton
April 3rd, 1891	Tunnicliffe, Walter, J.P., The Firs, Leigh
February 5th, 1886	Turner, William, Purby Chase, Atherstone
July 31st, 1886	Underdown, H. W., 12, Booth Street, Piccadilly
October 8th, 1886	Virgo, Charles G., Queen's Park, Manchester
December 7th, 1883	Waddington, William Angelo, Richmond Lodge, Bowdon
July 31st, 1886	Wales, George Carew, Conservative Club, Manchester
January 26th, 1894	Warburton, Jno., 32, Oak Street, Withington
March 2nd, 1894	Warburton, Samuel, 10, Wilton Polygon, Cheetham Hill
November 6th, 1885	Warburton, W. Daulby, M.A., 83, Bignor Street, Cheetham
May 4th, 1883	Ward, Professor A. W., M.A., LL.D., The Owens College
March 21st, 1883	Ward, James, Public Library, Leigh
June 11th, 1886	*Waters, Edwin H., Hawthorn Lea, Langham Road, Bowdon
July 31st, 1886	Watson, W. Alfred, 11, Mayfield Grove, Embden Street, Hulme
October 12th, 1888	*Watt, Miss, Speke Hall, near Liverpool
April 6th, 1894	Watts, James, Abney Hall, Cheadle
May 4th, 1883	Webb, Richard, 34, Grafton Street, Oxford Road, Manchester
March 2nd, 1895	Webber, Harry, 7, Cluny Street, Cheetham
September 26th, 1889	Wharton, Robert, Bolton Road, Pendleton
March 21st, 1883	Wieler, Miss R. C., Woodhurst Fallowfield
December 21st, 1892	Wilkinson, J. P., C.E., Assheton Road, Newton Heath
March 21st, 1883	*Wilkinson, Thomas Read, Knutsford
July 31st, 1886	Wimpory, Alfred, Arts Club, Manchester
March 21st, 1883	*Wood, R. H., F.S.A., Penrhos House, Rugby

December 2nd, 1892	Woodburne, Geo. B. L., M.A., The Cottage, Barton-on-Irwell
November 18th, 1884	Woodhouse, Rev. Canon Charles W., 65, Ardwick Green, Manchester
April 11th, 1890	Woodhouse, Samuel T.; Abbotsley, Knutsford
April 11th, 1890	Worthington, Edward N., Granville Road, Fallowfield
March 21st, 1883	Worthington, Thomas, R.I.B.A., Broomfield, Alderley Edge
May 4th, 1883	Wright, T. Frank, 441, City Road, Manchester
December 22nd, 1884	Wylie, J. H., M.A., Heybrook, Rochdale
March 21st, 1883	†Yates, George C., F.S.A., Swinton, Manchester

INDEX.

Ackers John 95
— Peter 95
— William 95
Agecroft Bridge 20
Alexander Family 90
Allen George 79
Altrincham 15
Ameson Jno. 85
Ancoats Bridge 21
Andertonford Bridge 24
Andrew Samuel on Copy Nook 140
Annual Meeting 106
Antrobus Phil. 63
Archæological Survey Committee 174
Ashton-on-Mersey 14
Ashworth Edmund 43
Astbury 83 84
Axon W. E. A. 116 118 145
— On *Visitations of the Plague in Lancashire and Cheshire* 52

Bailey J. E. 86
Baines T. 61
Balderston Ferry 26
Bamber Bridge 24
Banks Mrs. Linnæus 118
Barber R. 146
Barlow Ford 15
Barlow Alex. 127
Barlowe Father Edwarde 120
— John 76
Barrowford 23
— Beck 29
Barton E. W. 117
Barton Bridge 19
Barwick George 64
Bateman C. T. Tallent- 108 114 133
Beamont W. 10 13
Becconsall Marsh 23
Bell Old at Bradshaw 115
Bentham Roman Road 122
Beswicke John 77
Bevington George 91
Bibbye Anne 71
Bible Coins 115
Bibliography of Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquities 148
Bidston Visit to 130
Biggar Plague at 81
Billangahoh 31
Billinge Head 133
Billington 32
Birch John 95
Birkenhead Ferry 7 129
— Priory 7 128
Black Death at Didsbury 120
— in Lancashire and Cheshire 52
Blackburn Plague at 72
Blackford Bridge 22
Blackley Chapel 88
— Deed 108
Bland Dame Anne 121
Blundell C. J. W. 123
— Henry 123
Blundeville Randle 10
Boat British found at Lower Walton 119
Bolton Plague at 73
— Tokens 146
Bootle Plague at 95
Boteler Sir John 11
Bothe Thomas del 20
Bourne William B.D. 69
Bowringe Roger 76

Bow Stone Gate 90
Boydel Hugh 11 12
Bradford Ford 21
Bradford on Ribble 27
Bradley near Malpas 73 74
Bradshaw Brook 22
— Old Bell at 115
Bradshaw Alice dau. of James 88
— John 82
Bradshawe Tho. 91
Braid Family 93
Brasses Molyneux 126
Brayes Nicholas 58
Brereton Mrs. 65 66
— William Lord 84
Bridges Ancient in Lancashire 1
Bridgefriars 4
British Archæological Association 173
Broad Howley 10
Brockhall 27 32
— Eases 33
Broadhurst Ralph 82
Brooke Henry 68
Brooks Sir W. C. 146
Broughton Ford 20
Browne W. T. 140
Brun Brook 29
Brungerley Ford 27
Bucklow Manor 54
Bulcock Henderson 36
Bulckley Jno. 82
Bulkeley Lady Margaret 127
Bullasey Ford 27 32
Burnley 29 142
— Moor Roman Fibula found 139
Bury Bridge 21
Byrom Beppy 12 17 19

Cadishead Bridge 22
Cairns F. E. 138
Caius Dr. John 58
Calcot Roger 62
Calder River 3 28 30
Caroe W. D. 125
Carrington Bridge 13
Cartmel 56
Caryll Viscount Molyneux 126
Case Thomas 108
Castleton Deed 108
Chambers Mrs. 94
Cheadle Bridge and Ferry 16 17
Charter's Moss 48
Cheetham George 146
— James 146
Cheshire Antiquities Bibliography 148
Cheshire Plague in 52
Chester Plague at 57 58 60 61 62 64 68 71 72 90 91 96
Chetham Edward 108
— Humphrey 26
— Raphe 76
Chetham's Close Stone Circles 42 134
Chew Mill Ford 28
Cholmondeley Viscount 79
Chorlton Richard 76
Chowbent 108
Church Oldest Lancashire 100
Churchill W. S. 139
Claughton Bell 117
Clayton Bridge 21
Claytonford 22
Clutton Henry and Maude his wife 74
Coalpit Ancient at Hapton 142
Coalpits so-called 141
Cockerham Black Death at 55
— Plague at 93
Coins Bible 115
Collyhurst 80 87
Congleton Plague at 65 66 82
Cooke William 74
Copy Nook Oldham 140
Corbett Robert 58 59
Costeer Charles 76
Cowford Bridge 29
Cox E. W. 128
— Dr. J. C. on Mediæval Seals 142
Cozens John 140
Creighton Dr. 55 *seq.*
Croft Capt. Thomas 96
Crompton William 77
Cromwell Oliver 11 26 28
Crosford Bridge (Cross Ford or Cross Ferry) 14 15
Crosley Roger 28
Crosses near Garstang 140
Crosslidge 85
Croston James 133
Croston Ford 24
Croxton Geffrey 76
Cumberland Duke of 13

Dalton Plague at 81
Dalton John Medal of 114
Darwen River 26 29
Davenport Randle 65
Dawber John 51
Dawes Matthew 49
Dawkins W. Boyd 37
— *Address on Skulls* 135
Dawson Captain 121
— John 74
— Ralph 73
— Richard 73 74
— Thomas 73 74
Dean John 135
Dean Martyr Stone 113
Diconson Raphe 70
Didsbury Church Visit to 120
— Ford 16
— Pestilence 56
Dinkley Ferry 27
Ditton 8

Dodson Judith 96
Doeford Bridge 28
Doubie Thomas 95
Douglas River 23
Droylsden Indenture 146
Dryden Sir Henry 49
Dublin 93
Dukinfield Ford 18
Dun Ængus 117
Dunham-on-the-Hill 94
Dutton Sir Piers 114

Earwaker J. P. 43 78 98 99 117
Eastham Ferry 8
Ecclesiological Committee 174
Edisford Bridge 27
Elston Ferry 26
Esdaile George 106
Estbrick Plague at 78
Extwistle Moor 109

Failsworth Plague at 64
Fairholt F. W. 105
Farrimond F. W. 111
Fenysford Bridge 3 28
Ferries Ancient in Lancashire 1
Ferry at Birkenhead 129
Fibula Roman found on Burnley Moors 139
Fiddler's Ferry 9
Fiennes Celia 24
Fishwick H. 141
Fleetwood Thomas 23
Fletcher George 21
Maria of Burnage 121
Flint Implements 109 117 118
Flixton Ferry 13
Foard Field at Barlow 15
Ford Isbele 104
Fords Ancient in Lancashire 1
ffornace Tho. 79
Foulke Ellen 68
Fox Mr. 71
French Gilbert J. 113 118 145
— On *The Stone Circles on Chetham's Close* 42
Frodsham 105

Garstang 108 147
— Black Death at 55
— Crosses 140
Gaskin Family of Tarvin 96
Gastrell Francis 105
Gee John 76
Gilliam Jo 80
Glasier Mr. 65
Glastonbury Excavations 137
Glazebrook 22
Goose Green Wigan 24
Gorton Fr. 81
Gradwell Mgr. Robert 138
— On *The Oldest Church in Lancashire* 100
Great Edge Settlement 109
Low Visit to 133
Gregson W. E. 123
Gresford Church Misereres 110
Greenhalgh Plague at 78
Greenhalgh Thomas 43 45
Grimeford Bridge 24
Guest W. H. Obituary 175

Hacking Ferry 27
Hadocke Roger 89
Hale Ferry 8
Halle Richard 91
Halsted Henry 142
Hambleton 78
Hambleton Hills Churches 145
Hamnett Ford
Hampson Elizabeth and John 90
— John Hymn Book 108
Hanging Ditch 21
Hapton 142
Hapton Ricard 104
Harbarrow 146
Hardcastle Thomas 42 50 51 134
Hardwick Charles 32 33
Harrington William 16
Harrison William 118 147 174
— On *Ancient Fords Ferries and Bridges in Lancashire* 1
Hartley John 87
Hawkshead Plague at 64
Haydocke Roger 91
Heap Bridge 22
Hebblethwaites Thomas 121
Heber Bishop Reginald 111
Henry VI. 27
Henry VII. Visit to Lancashire 11
Hesketh Bank 23 24
Hewitson A. 100
Heye Anna 142
Heyrick Rev. R. 117
Heysham St. Patrick's Chapel 101
Heywood Nathan 104 115 147
Hicitford 22
Higger Brig on the Hodder 28
Hilbree 129
Hill Robt. 91
Hillam Farm 14
Hipping Stones Bridge 24
Hodder River 28 30
Hollinshed Wm. 83 85
Hollin's Ferry or Hollinfare 12
Hollinworth R. 56 *seq.*
Hollow Ford 24
Holme Edmond
Holmes Bridge 19
Hope W. H. St. John 143

Horrocksford 27
— Bridge 24
Holt Emily 114
Houlden Mary 86
Howell Archdeacon 111
Hubbersty Thomas 32
Hues Peter 64
Hughes John 59
— T. Cann 108
— On Misereres at Malpas and Gresford 110
Hulme Otho 146
Robert 146
Hulton W. A. 9
Hunt's Bank Bridge 21
Hunter Jonathan 129
Hutton Rev. F. R. C. 145
Hyde Abigail 18
Hyde Cross 81

Ince Blundell Hall Visit to 123
Ince Ferry 8
Ingram James 83
Inkle 83 85
Irk River 21
Irlam Ferry 18

Jackson J. R. 135
— John son of Richard of Tadcaster 69
— Shadrach 108 135 147
— On Garstang Crosses 140
Jackson's Boat 5
Jefferie Thomas 73
ohn Fitz Richard 9
Johnson James 91
Johnson's Ferry 23
Judson Rev. R. K. 116

Kay James 42 48
Keene Jno. 85
Keley Henry 76
Kempe John 80
Kendrick Dr. 12
Kenyon Roger 21
— Rev. W. T. 110
Kenyon Papers 21 31
Kersal Moor 18
Kirk Edward 50
Kirkdale 94 95
Kirke — Chaplain 69
Kirkham Adam de 54 55
Kirkham Black Death at 55
— Plague at 78
Knights Hospitallers 9
Knot Mill Bridge 21

Lancashire Antiquities Bibliography 148
— *Fords Ferries and Bridges* 1
— *Plague in* 52
Lancashire Thomas 76
Lancaster Black Death at 55
— Pestilence 57
Langho 32
Langlye Robert 80
Langton Robert on a Stratford Relic 104
— On an Old Bell at Bradshaw 115
Laplove Family 83 85
Latchford 10
Leake John 85
Lee Robertus 104
Leech Miss 13 14
Legh Sir Urian 65 68
Leicester (Lester) Rev. James 121
Letts Rev. E. F. 117
Lightboune Deed 108
Lightbowne James 91
Lincoln 104
Lindow Common Gravestone at 98
Linton Carton 128
Lister Charles Obituary 176
Little A. G. 54
Liverpool Ferries 7 129
— Plague at 58 59 64 72 90 92 93 94 95
Lobenhoffer Carl 135
London Road Bridge 21
Longford Sir Ralph 16
Longford Brook 22
Longton Ferry 23
Lostock Brook 24
Low Great 133
Luck Rev. J. R. on a *Tumulus near Stonyhurst* 30
Lunt 123
Lunte John 94
Lymm 12
Lytham Black Death at 55

Macclesfield Plague at 65 66 69
Mace for Manchester Corporation 107 15
Madeley Charles 146
Maisterton Richard 68
Malpas Church Misereres 110
— Plague at 93
Manchester Bridges 20
— Lady Mayoress's Chain 146
— Mace for the Corporation 102 115
— Medals commemorating the Queen's visit in 1887 114
— Pesthouse 70 *seq.*
— Plague at 58 59 61 64 66 69 70 72 79 81 87 97
— Ship Canal 119
— Siege of 121
Marbles Ancient at Ince Blundell 123
March H. Colley 51 117 134 138
Marsh George 113
Marshall 71
Martindale Adam 88
Mearley or Pendleton Brook 29
Medals Manchester 114

Medlock River 21
Meriot Richard 79
Mersey Fords Ferries and Bridges 7
Middle Brook 22
Middlewich 91
Minshull Tho 89
Misereres at Malpas and Gresford 110
Mitton Bridge 28
Molyneux Family Monuments 126
Moore Edward 94
More Richard de 8 9
Morris Canon H. R. 61
Mortar Jacobean 104
Mosley Ann 120
— Sir Edward 120 121
— Francis 76
— Sir Nicholas 120
Moss Fletcher on Didsbury Church 120
Mottram in Longdendale 104

Nantwich Plague at 66 67 68 81 91
Neild Hen. 91
Netherton 54
Newcome Rev. Henry 96
Newton William 85
Newton Plague at 78
Nicholson Albert 106 114 115 135
— J. Holme 118
Nickson Charles 9
North Rode 83
Northenden Ferry 15 16
Northwich Plague at 63 67
Norton 94
Nowell Dean 61

Obituary 175
Obsidian Implements 147
Okes Adam 83
Oldest Church in Lancashire 100
Oldham John of Stockport 69
Oldham 80
— Church 117
— Copy Nook 140
Orme Roger of Stockport 69
Osbaldeston 26
Overton Church 100
Owen John 135 146
Owen Lawrence 76
Oxley T. 104

Pack Saddle Bridge 22
Parker T. 146
Parkins Chancellor 111
Parnell Jno. 82
Parson's Stamford 14
Pearson J. 108
Pendle Water 29
Pendleton Brook 29
Penketh Ferry 9
Penkford Bridge 23
Penwortham Bridge and Ford 25
Phillips Rob. 64
Phillipps J. O. Halliwell 105
Picton Sir J. A. 93 98
Pincock Bridge 24
Plague at Didsbury 120
— *in Lancashire and Cheshire* 52
— Stone 84
Plymley Thomas 66
Pontifex Brothers 4
Portwood 18
Potter's Ford 28
Poulton Black Death at 55
Poynton Randle 84
Prestolee Bridge 20
Preston William 78
Preston 25
— Black Death at 55
— Plague at 57 61 78 81
Pretender at Crosford 14 15
— at Warrington Bridge 12 13
Probert Rev. W. 49
Proceedings 104
Pye James 95

Radcliffe John and children 89
Radcliffe Bridge 20
Raines F. R. 32
Rainford Brook 23
Rausthorne Edw. 81
Redford J. 140
Reedyford Bridge 29
Renaud F. on a Jacobean Mortar 104
Report of Council 172
Ribble River 24 30
Ribchester 30
— Black Death at 55
— Ford 26
Richardson — 118
Rile H. 104
Ringley Bridge 20
Rixton Ford 12 13
Roach River 22
Robinson John 95
Rochdale Manor 108
— Plague at 73
Rodes Thomas 68
Rollinson John 91
Roman Fibula found on Burnley Moors 139
— Roads 14 122
Roose Thomas on the Great Edge Settlement 108
Rowbotham G. H. 1 20 22
Rufford 23
Rules 179
Runcorn Gap Ford 8 9
Rushford Brook 22

Sagar Henry 142
— James 142
St. Michael's-on-Wyre Black Death at 55

Sale Flint Arrow Head found 117
Salford Bridge Burnley 29
— Bridge Clitheroe 29
— Constables 80
— Ford and Bridge 19 *seq.*
Salterford Bridge 28
Samlesbury Ferry 26
Sandbach 118
Sankey Brook 23
Savage Sir John 62
Savile Brook 29
Scholes J. C. 50 115
— William 77
Scotland Bridge 21
Scott Widow 92
Scrapers Hollow 139
Seals Mediæval 142
Sephton Church Visit to 125
Shaksperean Relic 105
Sheldon Norman 118
Sherburn Sir Richard 28
Shrewsbury Plague 58 79
Siddall Tom 121
Simpson W. W. 34
Singleton Allan de 101
Skulls Human Ancient 136
Slater Roger 85
Slinger J. S. on the Roman Road at Bentham 122
Smith Albert *Christopher Tadpole* 132
— C. Roach 105
— Cicely 68
— Doctor 89 91
— Elizabeth (Lancashire Bess) 87
— Thos. Vicar of Cockerham 93
Smith Bridge 21
Smithiford 22
Smithy Brook 24
Smyth Rose 74
Stalybridge 18
Stanley Thomas of Alderley 65
Stanney Plague at 94
Stanton Low 138
Starkie Colonel Le Gendre 134
Stockport 98
— Constables of 77
— or Stopford Bridge 17
— Plague at 68
Stonaw E. 98
Stone Circles on Chetham's Close 42
— Ford Flixton 13
— Implements 108 109 135
Stonyhurst 28
— Tumulus 30
Strand Bridge 23
Stratford-on-Avon 108
Stretford 14
— Stone 61
Strong Miss J. B. 145
Stubbs Frank 85
Sturzaker Bailiff 94
Stydd Chapel 100
Sudden Brook 22
Swann J. H. Bibliography of Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquities 148
Sweating Sickness 57
Swinden near Burnley 110

Tame River 18
Tarleton Ferry 23
Tarleton Michael 97
Tarvin 68 96
Tatham Roman Road 122
Tawd Brook 24
Taylor Alex. 115 135
— Robert 80
Thelwall Ford 12 111
Thicketford 22
Thistleton Plague at 78
Thistley Breast 135
Tiddeman Mr. 39
Tokens exhibited 145
Tonge River 22
Towneley Richard 142
Townley Collection of Marbles 124
Treales Plague at 78
Treasurer's Statement 175
Trows or Trough's Ferry 27
Tumulus near Stonyhurst 30
Turner — Schoolmaster at Didsbury 121
Turner Brook 22
Turton Bridge 22
— Chetham's Close 42 134
Twyford Richard 121

Ulverston Plague 58
Underhill William 105
Urmston 14

Venables Mrs. 96
Victoria Bridge 20

Waddington Hall 27
Wade General 15
Walker Roger 58
Wall Rev. G. W. 127
Walney Isle Plague in 81
Walton Lower British Boat found 119
Walton-le-Dale Ford and Bridge 26 29
Walworke Tho. 91
Warburton 12
Ward Richard 121
Wardley Hall 138
Warrant John 68
Warrington Bridge 11 *seq.*
— Ford 9
— Plague at 91
Watkin W. Thompson 8 12
Werneth 141
Whalley 31
Wharton Thomas 94

Whiston 95
Whitaker T. D. 32
Widnes 8 9
Wigan 94
— Bridge 24
— Plague at 96
Wiggan John 95
Wilderspool 12
"Will the Ferryman" 9
Wilkinson Tattersall 110 139
Williamson James of Stockport 69
— Wm. 94
Wilmslow Plague at 98
Wistaston Plague at 92
Woden's Ford 19
Woffenden Thomas 77
Wood Joseph Obituary 175
Woodburne G. B. L. 114
Woodward Henry 39
Woolden 22
Worsley — 95
— Charles M.P. 121
— Ralph 91 130
Worsthorn 29
Worthington James 91
— Roger 76
— Thomas 15
Wrexham Plague at 79
Wylde — 71
Wythenshawe Hall Siege of 121

Yarrow Brook 24
Yates G. C. 104 114 118 119 123 128 135 138 145
— On Hollow Scrapers 139
— On Obsidian Implements 147

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CONTENTS.

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Anthropological Institute, Journal, vol. xxii, parts iii and iv, vol. xxiii, parts i and ii.

Antiquaries (London), Proceedings of the Society, 2nd S., vol. xiv, part iv, vol. xv, part i.

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Archæologia Æliana, vol. xvi, part ii.

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Archæological Journal, vol. l.

Belfast Naturalists' Field Club, 2nd S., vol. iv.

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Hampshire Field Club, Transactions, vol. ii, part iii.

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*Worcester Archæological Society, 1892.
Yorkshire Archæological and Topographical Journal, vol. xii.

The following had not been issued in time for this index :—

William Salt Archæological Society for Staffordshire, vol. xiv.
Berwickshire Naturalists' Field Club, vol. xiv.
Lancashire and Cheshire Archæological Society, vol. x.

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INDEX OF ARCHÆOLOGICAL PAPERS PUBLISHED IN 1893.

ABERCROMBY (HON. JOHN). Magic songs of the Finns. *Folklore*, iv. 27–49.

ALLEN (J. ROMILLY, F.S.A.Scot.). The Early Christian Monuments of Glamorganshire. *Jour. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* xlix. 15–22.

ANDRÉ (J. L., F.S.A.). St. John the Baptist in art, legend, and ritual. *Arch. Jour.* l. 1–19.

ARMFIELD (REV. H. T., M.A., F.S.A.). The Essex dialect and its influence in the New World. *Essex Arch. Soc.* N.S. iv. 245–253.

ARNOLD (GEORGE M., F.S.A.). The ruined chapel of St. Katherine at Shorne, Kent. *Arch. Cant.* xx. 195–202.

——— On the old Rectory at Northfleet. *Arch. Cant.* xx. 71–75.

ARNOLD-BEMROSE (H., M.A., F.G.S.). Notes on Crich Hill. *Jour. Derbysh. Arch. and N. H. Soc.* xvi. 44–51.

ATKINSON (GEO. M.). Marks on Eastbourne Old Church. *Arch. Jour.* l. 133–136.

ATKINSON (ROBERT, LL.D.) On South-Coptic texts: a criticism on M. Bouriant's "Éloges du Martyr Victor, fils de Romanus." *Proc. Roy. Irish Acad.* 3rd S. iii. 225–284.

——— On Professor Rossi's publication of South-Coptic texts. *Proc. Roy. Irish Soc.* 3rd S. iii. 24–99.

ATKINSON (T. D.). On a Roman house at Swaffham Prior; on the hall of Michael House; on excavations at Ely Cathedral. *Cambridge Antiq. Soc. Proc.* viii. 229–243.

ATTREE (MAJOR F. W. T., R.E.). Some Hampshire dedications gathered from Pre-Reformation Wills. *Hampshire Field Club*, ii. 331–340.

BAILDON (W. PALEY, F.S.A.). An original pardon granted to Sir John Moore under the great seal of James II. dated October 22, 1688. *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* 2nd S. xv. 58–61.

BAKER (F. BRAYNE). Some rare or unpublished Greek coins. *Num. Chron.* 3rd S. xiii. 21–25.

BAKER (REV. H. DE FOE). Will of Lady Mary Lisle. *Salisbury Field Club*, i. 172–173.

BALL (V., C.B., LL.D., F.R.S.). On the volcanoes and hot springs of India, and the folklore connected therewith. *Proc. Roy. Irish Acad.* 3rd S. iii. 151–169.

BARCLAY (EDGAR). Stonehenge. *Jour. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* xlix. 179-205.

BARING-GOULD (REV. S.). Ancient settlement at Trewortha. *Roy. Inst. Corn.* xi. 289–290.

BARKLY (SIR HENRY, K.C.B., G.C.M.G., etc.). The Berkeleys of Cobberley. *Bristol and Glouc. Arch. Soc.* xvii. 96–125.

BATEMAN (CHARLES E.). Castle Bromwich Church. *Trans. Birm. and Midland Inst.* xix. 1–7.

BATES (CADWALLADER J.). Flodden Field. *Arch. Æliana*, N.S. xvi. 351–372.

BATESON (MISS MARY). The register of Crabhouse Nunnery. *Norfolk Arch. Soc.* xi. 1–71.

BAX (ALFRED RIDLEY, F.S.A.). Marriage and other licenses in the Commissary Court of Surrey. *Surrey Arch. Soc.* xi. 204-243.

BEAUFORT (W. M.). Records of the French Protestant School founded by Huguenot refugees, 1747. *Publus. Huguenot Soc.* iv. 355–466.

BECKLEY (F. J., B.A.). Notes on Irish architecture. *Trans. St. Paul's Eccl. Soc.* iii. 142–154.

BELL (ALFRED). Notes on the correlation of the later and Post-Pliocene Tertiaries on either side of the Irish Sea, with a reference to the fauna of the St. Erth Valley, Cornwall. *Proc. Roy. Irish Acad.* 3rd S. ii. 620–642.

BELL (EDWARD, M.A., F.S.A.). The origin and use of the word "Triforium." *Trans. St. Paul's Eccl. Soc.* iii. 124–130.

BELLAIRS (COL.). The Roman roads of Leicestershire. *Trans. Leicest. Archit. and Arch. Soc.* vii. 357–364.

BELOE (EDWARD MILLIGEN, F.S.A.). The mortuary, or absolution cross. *Norfolk Arch. Soc.* xi. 303–319.

BENSLEY (W. T., LL.D., F.S.A.). On some sculptured alabaster panels in Norwich. *Norfolk Arch. Soc.* xi. 352–358.

BERKS. Early Berkshire Wills, *ante* 1558. *Jour. Berks. A. and A. Soc.* ii. 175–178; iii. 47–48, 79–82.

BICKLEY (WILLIAM B.). Parish registers of Warwickshire. *Trans. Birm. and Midland Inst.* xix. 71–104.

BIGGER (FRANCIS JOSEPH, M.R.I.A.). Pre-historic and historic forts and Raths in the city and vicinity of Belfast. *Belfast Nat. Field Club*, 2nd S. iv. 71–82.

BIRCH (W. DE GRAY, F.S.A.). Notes on the Isis in the Saxon Charters and the signification of Berkshire. *Jour. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* xlix. 251–256.

BIRD (W. H. B.). Astley, in the parish of Alveley. *Trans. Shropshire A. and N. H. Soc.* 2nd S. v. 63–77.

BLACKMORE (H. P., M.D.). On a barrow near Old Sarum. *Salisbury Field Club*, i. 49–51.

BLAIR (ROBERT, F.S.A.). On some fragments of Roman sculptured and inscribed stones lately found at Wallsend. *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* 2nd S. xv. 67-69.

——— On a Roman altar found at Lanchester, county Durham. *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* 2nd S. xv. 35–37.

BLAKEWAY (REV. JOHN BRICKDALE, M.A., F.S.A.). History of Shrewsbury hundred or liberties. *Trans. Shropshire A. and N. H. Soc.* 2nd S. v. 363–394.

BOLINGBROKE (L. G.). Pre-Elizabethan plays and players in Norfolk. *Norfolk Arch. Soc.* xi. 332–351.

BOWER (REV. R., M.A.). Brasses in the diocese of Carlisle. *Trans. Cumb. and Westm. Ant. and Arch. Soc.* xiii. 142–151.

BOWLY (CHRISTOPHER). On a Roman inscribed stone found at Cirencester. *Bristol and Glouc. Arch. Soc.* xvii. 63–67.

BOYD (J. ST. CLAIR, M.D.). The Irish language. *Belfast Nat. Field Club*, 2nd S. iv. 97–110.

BOYLE (J. R., F.S.A.). The goldsmiths of Newcastle. *Arch. Æliana*, N.S. xvi. 397–440.

BOYS (REV. H. J., M.A.). Layer Marney Church. *Essex Arch. Soc.* N.S. iv. 227–234.

BRABROOK (E. W.). On the organisation of local anthropological research. *Jour. Anthrop. Inst.* xxii. 262–274.

BRADLEY (JOHN W., B.A.). Badges, devises, and heraldic ornaments of the Middle Ages. *Trans. Birm. and Midland Inst.* xix. 46–58.

BRASSINGTON (W. SALT, F.S.A.). Notes on ecclesiastical seals of Warwickshire. *Trans. Birm. and Midland Inst.* xix. 59–70.

BRIDGES (T.). A few notes on the structure of Yahgan [language.] *Jour. Anthrop. Inst.* xxiii. 53–80.

BROCK (E. P. LOFTUS, F.S.A.). Excavation of the site of Winchcombe Abbey, Gloucestershire. *Jour. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* xlix. 163–172.

BROCK (E. P. LOFTUS, F.S.A.). A comparison of the Roman stations of

Caerwent, Caerleon, and Cardiff. *Jour. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* xlix. 216–222.

BROWN (G. BALDWIN). How to use Vitruvius. *Trans. R.I.B.A.* ix. 353–372.

BROWNE (C. R., M.D.). On some crania from Tipperary. *Proc. Roy. Irish Acad.* 3rd S. ii. 649–654.

BROWNE (CHARLES, M.A., F.S.A.). Ecclesiastical head-dress. *Trans. St. Paul's Eccl. Soc.* iii. 155–164.

BROWNE (REV. J. CAVE, M.A.). Leeds Church, Kent. *Jour. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* xlix. 285–297.

——— Leeds Priory, Kent. *Jour. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* xlix. 89–102.

——— Detling Church, Kent. *Jour. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* xlix. 103–107.

BROWNLOW (RT. REV. MONSIGNOR, M.A.). A Visitation of St. Mary church in A.D. 1301. *Devon Assoc.* xxv. 431–448.

BRUSHFIELD (T. N., M.D.). President's address to the Devonshire Association. *Devon Assoc.* xxv. 25–158.

——— Richard Izacke, and his "Antiquities of Exeter." *Devon Assoc.* xxv. 449–469.

BUCKLAND (A. W.). Points of contact between old world myths and customs and the Navajo myth, entitled "The Mountain Chant." *Jour. Anthrop. Inst.* xxii. 346–355.

BUDGE (E. A. WALLIS, Litt.D., F.S.A.). On a Coptic grave-shirt in the possession of General Sir Francis Grenfell. *Archæologia*, liii. 433–444.

BUICK (REV. GEO. R., A.M., M.R.I.A.). Weavers' candle-holders. *Roy. Soc. Antiq. Ireland*, 5th S. iii. 292–294.

——— The Crannog of Moylarg. *Roy. Soc. Antiq. Ireland*, 5th S. iii. 27–43.

BULKELEY-OWEN (HON. MRS.). Selattyn: A history of the parish. *Trans. Shropshire A. and N. H. Soc.* 2nd S. v. 1–30, 151–210, 311–342.

BURNARD (ROBERT) and ARTHUR B. PROWSE (M.D., F.R.C.S.). Place-names in vol. i. of the publications of the Dartmoor Preservation Association. *Devon Assoc.* xxv. 482–509.

BURNS (REV. J. S.). Syon Abbey. *Devon Assoc.* xxv. 343–355.

BURTCHAELL (GEO. DAMES, M.A., LL.B., M.R.I.A.). The Geraldines of the county Kilkenny. Pt. II. The Barons of Overk and the Barons of Knocktopher. *Roy. Soc. Antiq. Ireland*, 5th S. iii. 179–186.

CALVERLEY (REV. W. S., F.S.A.). Pre-Norman cross-shaft at Heversham. *Trans. Cumb. and Westm. Arch. and Ant. Soc.* xiii. 118–124

CANDLER (CHARLES). On the significance of some East Anglian Field-names. *Norfolk Arch. Soc.* xi. 143–178.

CARDWELL (JOHN). The ancient church of Lisnagarric. *Belfast Nat. Field Club*, 2nd S. iv. 82–84.

CARRINGTON (W. A.). Selections from the Steward's accounts preserved at Haddon Hall for the years 1549 and 1564. *Jour. Derbysh. Arch. and N. H. Soc.* xvi. 61–85.

——— List of recusants in the Peak of Derbyshire, 1616; list of bucks killed at Haddon 1669; names of Derbyshire gentlemen charged for the levy of three horsemen, &c. *Jour. Derbysh. Arch. and N. H. Soc.* xvi. 140–156.

CHALMERS (J.). Burton church. *Trans. Cumb. and Westm. Ant. and Arch. Soc.* xiii. 64–68.

CHAMBERLAIN (BASIL HALL). Notes on some minor Japanese religious practices. *Jour. Anthrop. Inst.* xxii. 355–370.

CHEALES (H. J., M.A.). On the wall-paintings in All Saints' Church, Friskney, Lincolnshire. *Archæologia*, liii. 427–432.

CHURCH (REV. C. M., M.A., F.S.A.). The Prebendal Psalms in the Church of Wells. *Somerset Arch. and Nat. Hist. Soc.* N.S. xix. 87–99.

CHUTE (CHALONER WM.). The Vyne [a house in the north of Hampshire]. *Salisbury Field Club*, i. 100–103.

CLARK (PROFESSOR E. C., LL.D., F.S.A.). English academical costume (mediæval). *Arch. Journ.* l. 73–104, 137–149, 183–209.

CLARK (REV. W. GILCHRIST). Unpublished documents relating to the arrest of Sir William Sharington, January, 1549. *Wilts Arch. and N. H. Mag.* xxvii. 159–170.

CLARKE (ERNEST, F.S.A.). On the palimpset brass of Sir Anthony and Dame Fitzherbert in Norbury Church, Derbyshire. *Proc. Antiq. Soc.* 2nd S. xv. 96–99.

CLUTTERBUCK (REV. R. H., F.S.A.). Sarum [Excursions from and to] *Salisbury Field Club*, i. 160-166.

CODRINGTON (R. H.). Melanesian Folk-Tales. *Folklore*, iv. 509–512.

COLE (REV. E. MAULE, M.A., F.G.S.). Danes' Dike. *Trans. East Riding Antiq. Soc.* i. 53–58.

COLEMAN (REV. WILL. L.). Some place and field names of the parish of Staveley. *Jour. Derbysh. Arch. and N. H. Soc.* xvi. 190–197.

COLLIER (W. F.). Devonshire dialect. *Devon Assoc.* xxv. 276–285.

COMPTON (C. H.). The ancient church in Wales. *Jour. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* xlix. 129–137.

Cooper (C. Dudley, M.R.C.S.). Notes on the skull of an aboriginal Australian. *Jour. Anthrop. Inst.* xxiii. 153–156.

Cooper (Rev. James, D.D.). Ecclesiology in Scotland. *Trans. St. Paul's Eccl. Soc.* iii. 131–141.

Cooper (Rev. T. S., M.A.). The church plate of Surrey. *Surrey Arch. Soc.* xi. 252–284.

Cosson (Baron de, F.S.A.). The crossbow of Ulrich V. Count of Wurtemburg, 1460, with remarks on its construction. *Archæologia*, liii. 445–464.

Coulton (John James). Names on the Nar. *Norfolk Arch. Soc.* xi. 208–227.

Cowper (H. Swainson, F.S.A.). The ancient settlements, cemeteries, and earthworks of Furness. *Archæologia*, liii. 389–426.

——— Gleaston Castle. *Trans. Cumb. and Westm. Ant. and Arch. Soc.* xiii. 37–49.

——— On some obsolete and semi-obsolete appliances. *Trans. Cumb. and Westm. Ant. and Arch. Soc.* xiii. 86–102.

Cox (Rev. J. Charles, LL.D., F.S.A.). The annals of the Abbey of Meaux. *Trans. East Riding Antiq. Soc.* i. 1–45.

——— An Elizabethan clergy list of the diocese of Lichfield. *Trans. Shropshire A. and N. H. Soc.* 2nd S. v. 253–260.

Craigie (W. A.). The oldest Icelandic folklore. *Folklore*, iv. 219–232.

Crawfurd (Rev. G. P.). Vachell [family] of Coley, Reading. *Jour. Berks. A. and A. Soc.* iii. 2–10, 32–40, 64–68.

Crisp (Frederick Arthur). Surrey wills. *Surrey Arch. Soc.* xi. 285–300.

Crombie (James E.). First footing in Aberdeenshire. *Folklore*, iv. 315–321.

Crossman (Maj.-Gen. Sir William, K.C.M.G., F.S.A.). A bull of Adrian IV. relating to Neasham Priory, co. Durham. *Arch. Æliana*, N.S. xvi. 268–273.

Crouch (Walter, F.Z.S., &c.). Memoir of the late Henry William King, of Leigh. *Essex Arch. Soc.* N.S. iv. 307–315.

Cuming (H. Syer, V.P., F.S.A.Scot). Old traders' signs in Little Britain. *Jour. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* xlix. 108–116.

——— Old traders' signs in Duck Lane. *Jour. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* xlix. 117–119.

Cunningham (Maj.-Gen. Sir A., R.E., K.C.I.E., C.S.I.). Later Indo-Scythians. *Num. Chron.* 3rd S. xiii. 93–128, 166–202.

Currey (H. E., M.A.). Supplemental notes on the almshouse of

Elizabeth, Countess of Shrewsbury. *Jour. Derbysh. Arch. and N. H. Soc.* xvi. 1-13.

CURTIS (CANON). Description of the sarcophagus in the Imperial Museum, Constantinople. *Trans. R.I.B.A.* ix. 436.

DAMES (M. LONGWORTH). Balochi tales. *Folklore*, iv. 195–206, 285–302, 518–528.

DARTNELL (G. E.) and REV. E. H. GODDARD. Contributions towards a Wiltshire glossary. *Wilts Arch. and N. H. Mag.* xxvii. 124–159.

DAVID (REV. WILLIAM, M.A.). A brief history of St. Fagan's, Glamorganshire. *Jour. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* xlix. 23–33.

DAVIS (CECIL T.). Merchants' Marks. *Jour. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* xlix. 45–54.

DAVIS (REV. R. G.). The Oratory of Barton. *Hampshire Field Club*, ii. 295–307.

DAVYS (REV. CANON). St. Mary's, Eaton Bray. *Trans. St. Albans Archit. and Arch. Soc.* for 1892, 42–46.

DAVYS (F. TREVOR). Edlesborough, Buckinghamshire. *Trans. St. Albans Archit. and Arch. Soc.* for 1892, 33–41.

DEANE (SIR THOMAS NEWENHAM). A report on ancient monuments in co. Kerry. *Proc. Roy. Irish Soc.* 3rd S. iii. 100–107.

DICKSON (JOHN M.). Relative antiquity of rath, cromleac and burial tumulus: as evidenced by some ancient remains near Dromore, co. Down. *Belfast Nat. Field Club*, 2nd S. iv. 55–70.

DILLON (RT. HON. VISCOUNT, V.P.S.A.). Calais and the Pale. *Archæologia*, liii. 289–388.

———— On the development of gunlocks, from examples in the Tower. *Arch. Jour.* l. 115–132.

DONNELLY (MOST REV. N., D.D., M.R.I.A., Bishop of Canea). Incumbents of Killadreenan and Archdeacons of Glendalough in the fifteenth century; with extracts from the Roman archives. *Roy. Soc. Antiq. Ireland*, 5th S. iii. 123–139.

DÖRFELD (DR. W.). The Hypæthral Temple. *Trans. R.I.B.A.* ix. 96–104.

DORLING (E. E.). Licence to the vicars of Sarum 1337. *Salisbury Field Club*, i. 104.

DORMAN (THOMAS). Extracts from the account books of Captain John Harvey, R.N., Mayor of Sandwich 1774–5. *Arch. Cant.* xx. 222–227.

DOUGLAS (PROF. R. K., M.A.). The social and religious ideas of the Chinese, as illustrated in the ideographic characters of the language. *Jour. Anthrop. Inst.* xxii. 159–173.

DOWKER (G.). On Romano-British fictile vessels from Preston near Wingham. *Arch. Cant.* xx. 49–53.

DREDGE (REV. J. INGLE). The Marwood list of briefs 1714–1774. *Devon Assoc.* xxv. 356–381.

——— A few sheaves of Devon bibliography. *Devon Assoc.* xxv. 552–601.

DUCKWORTH (W. LAURENCE H., B.A.). Description of two skulls from Nagyr. *Jour. Anthrop. Inst.* xxiii. 121–134.

DUNCAN (LELAND L., F.S.A.). Kentish administrations, 1604–1649. *Arch. Cant.* xx. 1–48.

——— Folklore gleanings from county Leitrim. *Folklore*, iv. 176–194.

——— Folklore in Wilts. *Folklore*, iv. 513–517.

DUNLOP (ANDREW, M.D., F.G.S.). A contribution to the ethnology of Jersey. *Jour. Anthrop. Inst.* xxii. 335–345.

DYER (LOUIS). Greek Folklore; on the breaking of vessels as a funeral rite in Modern Greece; translated from the original of N. G. Politis, Professor at the University of Athens. *Jour. Anthrop. Inst.* xxiii. 28–41.

EBBLEWHITE (ERNEST ARTHUR, F.S.A). The village and church of Bedfont, co. Middlesex. *Jour. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* xlix. 120–128.

ELLIOT (G. F. SCOTT, M.A., F.L.S.). Some notes on native West African customs. *Jour. Anthrop. Inst.* xxiii. 80–83.

ELLIS (A. S.). Yorkshire Deeds. *Yorks. Arch. Jour.* xii. 289–308.

ELWORTHY (F. T.). Witham Priory. *Somerset Arch. and Nat. Hist. Soc.* N.S. xix. 1–30.

——— Thirteenth report of the committee on Devonshire verbal provincialisms. *Devon Assoc.* xxv. 181–211.

EVANS (ARTHUR J., M.A., F.S.A.). On the prehistoric interments of the Balzi Rossi Caves near Mentone, and their relation to the Neolithic Cave-burials of the Finalese. *Jour. Anthrop. Inst.* xxii. 287–307.

EVANS (SIR JOHN, K.C.B., D.C.L., LL.D., F.R.S.). Find of coins at Nesb, Norway. *Num. Chron.* 3rd S. xiii. 36–39.

——— A new Saxon mint, Weardbyrig. *Num. Chron.* 3rd S. xiii. 220–227.

——— Hertfordshire tokens. *Num. Chron.* 3rd S. xiii. 282–285.

FAIRBANK (F. R., M.D., F.S.A.). The House of Grey Friars, Doncaster. *Yorks. Arch. Jour.* xii. 481–486.

FERGUSON (CHANCELLOR, M.A., LL.M., F.S.A.). On two Roman inscriptions found at Carlisle. *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* 2nd S. xv. 118–119.

——— An archæological survey of Cumberland and Westmorland, and of Lancashire North-of-the-Sands, by H. Swainson Cowper, F.S.A. *Archæologia*, liii. 485–538.

——— The Denton manuscripts. *Trans. Cumb. and Westm. Ant. and Arch. Soc.* xiii. 218–223.

——— On a bronze vessel of Roman date found at Clifton, near Penrith. *Trans. Cumb. and Westm. Ant. and Arch. Soc.* xiii. 164.

——— A survey of the city of Carlisle in 1684–5 from the collection of Lord Dartmouth. *Trans. Cumb. and Westm. Ant. and Arch. Soc.* xiii. 172–193.

——— On a massive timber platform of early date at Carlisle, and on sundry relics found in connection therewith. *Arch. Jour.* l. 20–36.

FIELD (JOHN EDWARD, M.A.). The antiquities of Wallingford. *Jour. Berks. A. and A. Soc.* iii. 18–23, 49–54, 75–79.

FIELDER (W.). Stone coffins found under the pavement in south transept and under tower, Wells Cathedral. *Somerset Arch. and Nat. Hist. Soc.* N.S. xix. 100–101.

FISHER (REV. G. W.). Thomas Browne, of Shrewsbury, draper. *Trans. Shropshire A. and N. H. Soc.* 2nd S. v. 49–60.

FITZGERALD (LORD WALTER). "The Geraldines Throw"; identification of the spot referred to in a sixteenth century legend related by Holinshead. *Roy. Soc. Antiq. Ireland*, 5th S.; ii. 202–206.

FLETCHER (REV. WM. GEO. DIMOCK, M.A., F.S.A.). Will of Sir Edward Bromley, Knt., of Shifnal Grange, 1626. *Trans. Shropshire A. and N. H. Soc.* 2nd S. v. 225-228.

——— History of Pontesbury. *Trans. Shropshire A. and N. H. Soc.* 2nd S. v. 229–252.

——— The Shropshire lay subsidy roll of 1327. *Trans. Shropshire A. and N. H. Soc.* 2nd S. v. 343–362.

——— The family of Story of Lockington. *Trans. Leicest. Archit. and Arch. Soc.* vii. 337–356.

FOULKES (ISAAC). Dyffryn clwyd: ei ramantau a'i Lafar Gwlad. *Trans. Cymmrodorion Soc.* Sess. 1892–3. 88–103.

FOWLER (REV. H., M.A.). Ivinghoe Church. *Trans. St. Albans Archit. and Arch. Soc.* for 1892, 24–33.

FOX (GEORGE E., F.S.A.) and W. H. ST. JOHN HOPE, M.A. Excava-

tions on the site of the Roman city of Silchester, Hants, in 1892. *Archæologia*, liii. 539–573.

Fox (George E., F.S.A.). A note on the discovery of painted beams at the Deanery, Norwich. *Norfolk Arch. Soc.* xi. 179–181.

Franks (A. W., C.B., Litt.D., F.R.S., F.S.A.). President's Address to the Society of Antiquaries. *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* 2nd S. xiv. 331–351.

Frampton (Rev. Thomas Shipdem, M.A., F.S.A.). List of forty-five vicars of Tilmanstone. *Arch. Cant.* xx. 104–118.

——— Fifty-eight Rectors of Trottescliffe. *Arch. Cant.* xx. 187–194.

——— List of incumbents of St. Peter's, Seal. (Held with St. Mary's, Kemsing, until 1874.) *Arch. Cant.* xx. 258–275.

——— Early presentations to Kentish Benefices. *Arch. Cant.* xx. 64–70.

Frazer (William, F.R.C.S.I., M.R.I.A., Hon. F.S.A. Scot.). Recent unrecorded finds of James II.'s brass money near Dublin; with notes on this coinage. *Roy. Soc. Antiq. Ireland*, 5th S. iii. 164–167.

——— The Medallists of Ireland and their work. *Roy. Soc. Antiq. Ireland*, 5th S. iii. 7–26.

——— On a skull from Lincoln, and on Irish Crania. *Proc. Roy. Irish Acad.* 3rd S. ii. 643–647.

Freshfield (Edwin, LL.D., F.S.A.). Opening Address of the Architectural Section at the London meeting. *Arch. Jour.* l. 232–246.

Fretton (W. G., F.S.A.). Southam and its historical memorials. *Warwicksh. Nat. and Arch. Field Club*, 1892, 43–57.

——— The waters of the Arden: a sketch of its springs, wells, rivers, lakes, pools, and marshes, within the basin of the Avon. *Warwicksh. Nat. and Arch. Field Club*, 1893, 19–36.

——— The Wroth-silver ceremony at Knightlow. *Warwicksh. Nat. and Arch. Field Club*, 1893, 58–60.

Fuller (Rev. E. A., M.A.). The parish church of St. John the Baptist, Cirencester. *Bristol and Glouc. Arch. Soc.* xvii. 34–44.

——— Cirencester Abbey Church. *Bristol and Glouc. Arch. Soc.* xvii. 45–52.

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land or more by military service, and were not knights, Henry III., 1256. *Roy. Inst. Corn.* xi. 291–303.

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INDEX.

Aberdeenshire: *Crombie.*
Accounts: *Dorman, see* "Churchwardens, Stewards."
Adrian IV.: *Crossman.*
Æthelbald: *Lawrence.*
Africa: *Elliot.*
Almshouses: *Currey.*
Anglo-Saxon remains: *Payne.*
Antrim: *Smith.*
Appleby: *Hope, Leach.*
Aran Islands: *Haddon.*
Architectural antiquities:
Ecclesiastical: *Bell, Browne, Fowler, Hodges, Irvine, Prendergast, Puckle, Spiers, Sykes, Westropp, Williams.*
Irish: *Beckley.*
Saxon: *Nisbett.*
Coped Stones: *Langdon.*
Irish mud: *Beckley.*
Arden: *Fretton.*
Armada, Spanish: *O'Reilly.*
Armour: *Cosson, Dillon.*
Art: *André, Hartshorne, Healy, Phillips, see* Frescoes, Ironwork, Panels, Pictures, Portraits, Tapestry.
Astley: *Bird.*
Astrolabes: *Read.*
Athens: *Head.*
Australia: *Cooper.*

Balochi Tales: *Dames.*
Barrows: *Blackmore, Wildridge.*
Barton: *Davis.*
Beaconsfield: *Summers.*
Beardsall: *Kerry.*
Becket (Thomas à): *Russell.*
Bedfordshire, *see* Eaton Bray.
Bedfont: *Ebblewhité.*
Belfast: *Bigger.*
Bellfounders: *Hope*
Bells: *Whitehead.*
Berkeleys: *Barkly.*
Berkshire: *Berks, Birch, see* Bisham, Eton, Reading, Swallowfield, Wallingford.
Beverley: *Leach.*
Bibliography: *Atkinson, Birch, Blakeway, Brushfield, Church, Dredge, Ellis, Green, James, Leach, O'Looney, O'Reilly, Phear, Pollock, Raven, Ray, Rowe, Rye, Stokes, Young.*
Bibracte: *Grover.*
Birling: *Whitley.*
Birmingham: *Hope.*
Bisham: *Hone.*
Blanchland: *Johnson.*
Borneo: *Hose.*
Braintree: *Kenworthy.*
Bronze strigil: *Raven.*
Brooke family: *Sykes.*
Buckinghamshire: *Parker, see* Beaconsfield, Edlesborough.
Buda-Pest: *Lewis.*
Burton: *Chalmers.*

Caerleon: *Brock.*
Caerwent: *Brock.*
Calais: *Dillon.*
Cambridge: *Harrison, Hughes.*
Cambridgeshire: *Ridgeway. see* Cambridge, Ely, Swaffham Prior.
Candleholders: *Buick.*
Canterbury: *Robertson.*
Cardiff: *Brock.*
Carlisle: *Bower, Ferguson, Haverfield, Russell, Wilson.*
Carrickfergus: *Young.*
Castle Bromwich: *Bateman.*
Chambers (Sir William): *Papworth.*
Charters: *Kerry.*
Checkendon: *Pearman*
Cheltenham: *Rouse.*
Chester: *Williams.*
Chichester: *Hope.*

Chiltern : *Pearman.*
Chinese : *Douglas.*
Chollerford : *Holmes.*
Churchwardens' accounts : *Hayward, Jones.*
Cirencester : *Bowly, Fuller.*
Clare : *O'Looney, Westropp, see* Killaloe.
Clifton : *Ferguson.*
Coate : *Passmore.*
Cobberley : *Barkly.*
Colchester : *Laver.*
Constantinople : *Curtis, Spiers.*
Conventicles : *Webb.*
Coptic texts, etc. : *Atkinson, Budge.*
Cornwall : *Bell Langdon, Sincock see* Launceston, Lewannick, Otterham, Trewortha.
Cornworthy : *Harris.*
Costume : *Clark.*
Covehithe : *Raven.*
Crabhouse Nunnery : *Bateson.*
Craniology : *Browne, Cooper, Duckworth, Frazer, Haddon, Whitley.*
Crich Hill : *Arnold-Bemrose.*
Cricklade : *Ponting.*
Crosses : *Beloe, Calverley, Hayward, Pritchett.*
Cucklington : *Weaver.*
Cuellar (Capt.) : *O'Reilly.*
Cumberland : *Ferguson, see* Carlisle, Westward.

Danes : *Taylor.*
Dartmoor : *Phillips, Whale, Worth.*
Deepdale : *Ward.*
Derby Abbey : *Kerry.*
Derbyshire : *Carrington, see* Beardsall, Crich Hill, Deepdale, Norbury, Peak, Staveley.
Detling : *Cave Brown.*
Devizes : *Waylen.*
Devonshire : *Collier, Dredge, Elworthy, Jones, Rowe, Worth, see* Cornworthy, Dartmoor, Exeter, Marwood, Syon Abbey, Torbay, Torquay.
Dialect : *Armfield, Collier, Dartnell, Elworthy.*
Domesday : *Phear, Pollock, Willis-Bund.*
Domestic appliances : *Cowper.*
Doncaster : *Fairbank.*
Donhead St. Mary : *Short.*
Dovecots : *Watkins.*
Dover : *Puckle, Robertson.*
Down : *Lockwood, see* Dromore.
Drama : *Bolingbroke, Ordish.*
Dromore : *Dickson.*
Dublin : *Frazer.*
Durham, *see* Lanchester, Neasham.

Earthworks : *Bigger, Cole, Cowper, Hughes, Martin, Ridgeway, Wildridge.*
Eastbourne : *Atkinson.*
Eaton Bray : *Davys.*
Ecclesiastical antiquities : *Allen, André, Arnold, Atkinson, Bell, Beloe, Bateman, Boyes, Brassington, Brock, Browne, Brownlow, Burns, Cheales, Church, Compton, Cooper, Cox, Crossman, Donnelly, Dorling, Fox, Frampton, Fuller, Glynne, Grantley, Hancock, Healy, Hodges, Hopper, Leach, Levett, Oliver, Rutton, Venables, Waller, Webb, Yeatman.*
Ecclesfield : *Howorth.*
Edlesborough : *Davys.*
Edward III. : *Greenstreet, Lawrence.*
Edward VI. : *Hodgson.*
Egyptian antiquities : *Macalister, see* "Coptic."
Elizabeth (Queen) : *Maclean.*
Ely : *Atkinson.*
Essex : *Armfield, see* Braintree, Colchester, Hatfield Broad Oak, Hedingham, Layer Marney, Southminster.
Eton : *James.*
Evesham : *Oliver.*
Exeter : *Brushfield.*

Faintree : *Purton.*
Faversham : *Giraud, Payne.*
Finns : *Abercromby.*
Flodden Field : *Bates.*
Folklore : *Abercromby, André, Ball, Buckland, Codrington, Craigie, Crombie, Dames, Douglas, Duncan, Dyer, Elliot, Fitzgerald, Fretton, Gaye, Godden, Gomme, Gray, Haddon, Hartland, Hastie, Jacobs, Lang, Lewis, Ordish, Patterson, Peacock, Peal, Rhys, Robinson, Roth, Rouse, Stokes, Yeats.*
Frescoes : *James.*
Friends, Society of : *Phillips.*
Friskney : *Cheales.*
Froxfield : *Money.*
Furness : *Cowper.*

Galway, *see* Aran Islands.
Garmangabis : *Haverfield, Hooppell.*

Genealogy and family history: *Barkly, Burtchaell, Clark, Fletcher, Gough, Groves, Harpley, Haslewood, Hone, Jones, Langley, Layard, Pearman, Punchard, Stocker, Sykes, Wadmore, Watney, Windeatt.*
Geraldines, the: *Burtchaell.*
Gipsies: *Griffiths.*
Glamorganshire: *Allen, see* Cardiff, St. Fagans.
Glass, Church: *Waller.*
Gleaston Castle: *Cowper.*
Glencree: *Le Fanu.*
Glendalough: *Donnelly.*
Gloucestershire: *Taylor, see* Cirencester, Cheltenham, Clifton, Cobberley, Winchcombe.
Goughs of Myddle: *Gough.*
Greece: *Dyer, Head.*

Hackney: *Ward.*
Haddon Hall: *Carrington.*
Hampshire: *Attree, see* Barton, Lee-on-the-Solent, New Forest, Rowner, Silchester.
Haseley: *Pearman.*
Hatfield Broad Oak: *Galpin.*
Hedingham: *Hayward.*
Henry III.: *Sincock.*
Henry VIII.: *Hodgson.*
Heraldry: *Bradley, Hope.*
Hermitages: *Kingsford.*
Hertfordshire: *Evans, see* Ivinghoe, St. Albans.
Heversham: *Calverley.*
High Ercall: *Vane.*
Holnicote: *Hancock.*
Huguenots: *Beaufort, Layard, Maguire.*
Hull: *Hope, Sykes.*

Icelandic Folklore: *Craigie.*
Ilton: *Gardiner.*
India: *Ball.*
Indo-Scythians: *Cunningham.*
Inscriptions: *Blair, Bowly, Ferguson, Haverfield, Hooppell, Langdon, Murray.*
Ironwork: *Hart.*
Isle of Wight, *see* Osborne.
Isurium: *Leadman.*
Ivinghoe: *Fowler.*

James I.: *Maclean.*
James II.: *Frazer.*
Japanese: *Chamberlain.*
Jersey: *Dunlop.*

Katherine, Queen: *Garnett.*
Kells: *Healy.*
Kent: *Duncan, Greenstreet, see* Canterbury, Detling, Dover, Faversham, Leeds, Medway, New Romney, Northfleet, Preston, Sandgate, Sandwich, Seal, Shorne, Tilmanstone, Trottescliffe, West Wickham.
Kerry: *Deane.*
Kilkenny: *Burtchaell, see* Ullard.
Killadreenan: *Donnelly.*
Killaloe: *Westropp.*
Kingston-upon-Hull: *Hope, Sykes.*

Lancashire: *Ferguson.*
Lanchester: *Blair, Haverfield, Hooppell.*
Langley family: *Langley.*
Language: *Boyd, Bridges, Ray, see* Dialect, Place names.
Launceston: *Peter.*
Lawsuits: *Hardy.*
Layer Marney: *Boys.*
Leamington: *Stanley.*
Lee-on-the-Solent: *Robinson.*
Leeds (Kent); *Cave-Browne.*
Leicestershire: *Bellairs, see* Lockington, Mountsorrel.
Leigh, the: *Ponting.*
Leigh Place: *Watney.*
Leitrim: *Duncan, Peacock.*
Lepers House: *Stanley.*
Lewannick, *Langdon.*
Lichfield: *Cox.*
Lincoln: *Frazer, Venables.*
Lincolnshire, *see* Friskney, Lincoln.
Lisnagarrie: *Cardwell.*
Lockington: *Fletcher.*
London: *Cuming, Papworth, Round.*
Lovelace family: *Pearman.*
Ludlow: *Jones.*

Manorial customs: *Fretton, Hone, Kerry, Maclean, Parker, Pearman, Purton, Watney, Worth.*
Marriage licences: *Bax, Norcliffe.*
Marton: *Wildridge.*
Marwood: *Dredge.*
Meath, *see* Kells.
Meaux: *Cox.*
Medway: *Levett.*
Melanesian Folk-Tales: *Codrington.*
Mentone: *Evans.*
Merchants' Marks: *Davis.*
Middlesex, *see* Bedfont, Hackney.
Monasterboice: *Healy.*
Monmouth, *see* Caerleon.

Monuments, effigies, tombs: *Allen, Bower, Clarke, Deane, Galpin, Gardiner, Haverfield, Howorth, Manning, Oliver, Pickance, Robertson, Stanley, Ward.*
Moore, Sir John: *Baildon.*
Mountsorrell: *Hügel.*
Moylarg: *Buick.*
Municipal insignia: *Hope.*
Myddle: *Gough.*

Nagyr: *Duckworth.*
Nar: *Coulton.*
Neasham Priory: *Crossman.*
Newcastle: *Boyle, Knowles.*
New Forest: *Griffiths.*
New Hebrides: *Ray.*
New Romney: *Rutton.*
Norbury: *Clarke.*
Norfolk: *Bolingbroke, Rye, see* Crabhouse, Nar, Norwich.
Northfleet: *Arnold.*
Northamptonshire, *see* Peterborough.
Northumberland, *see* Blanchland, Newcastle, Wallsend.
Northumbria: *Grantley.*
Norwich: *Fox, Hudson, Raven.*
Numismatics:
Æthelbald: *Lawrence.*
Arsacidæ: *Rapson.*
Britain: *Howorth.*
Edward III.: *Lawrence.*
Flemish: *Montague.*
Greek: *Baker, Greenwell, Head, Hill, Howorth, Wroth.*
James II.: *Frazer.*
Medals and tokens: *Evans, Frazer, Weber.*
Norman Kings: *Packe.*
Norway: *Evans.*
Romans, King of the: *Weber.*
Saxon: *Evans, Grantley.*

Offa's Dyke: *Hughes.*
Ogam stone: *Langdon.*
Old Sarum: *Blackmore.*
Osborne: *Groves.*
Otterham: *Maclean.*
Oxford, *see* Checkendon, Chiltern, Haseley, Pirton.

Paracelsus: *Weber.*
Paintings: *Weaver, see* "Frescoes."
Palma: *Prendergast.*
Panels: *Bensley, Hope.*
Pardon: *Baildon.*
Pardon (Thomas): *Purton.*
Parish clerks: *Giraud.*
Parish registers: *Bickley, Sankey, Vane; Whitehead, Wilson.*
Parliament: *Scott.*
Peak: *Carrington.*
Penny (John) Bishop of Carlisle: *Wilson.*
Peterborough: *Irvine.*
Picture, old Saxon: *Harrison.*
Pirton: *Pearman.*
Place names: *Burnard, Candler, Coleman, Coulton, Hickson, Morris Norris.*
Pontesbury: *Fletcher.*
Portraits: *Scharf, Weber.*
Poslingford: *Jarvis.*
Powell (Rob.): *Phillips.*
Prehistoric antiquities: *Dickson.*
Burials: *Dickson, Evans.*
Crannogs: *Buick.*
Mud architecture: *Simpson.*
Neolithic and bronze age: *Lasham.*
Palæolithic: *Tylor.*
Stone circles: *Barclay, Lewis, Passmore.*
Stone forts: *Westropp.*
Stone implements: *Knowles, Robinson, Short.*
Stone rows: *Worth.*
Timber platform: *Ferguson.*
Preston: *Dowker.*
Prince family: *Jones.*
Privy Council: *Hodgson.*
Protectorate: *Scott.*
Punchard family: *Punchard.*

Ramsbury: *Webb.*
Ratisbon: *Hartshorne.*
Reading: *Crawfurd.*
Registers: *Bateson.*
Reigate: *Pickance.*
Ring-dial: *Read.*
Rohan (Duc de): *Layard.*
Roman antiquities: *Brown, Ferguson, Haverfield, Lambert, Leadman Money, Ward.*
Roman remains: *Atkinson, Bellairs, Blair, Bowly, Brock, Dowker.*
Bibracte: *Grover.*
Chester: *Williams.*
Chollerford: *Holmes.*
Colchester: *Laver.*
Dover: *Puckle.*
Lanchester: *Blair, Haverfield, Hooppell.*
Silchester: *Fox.*
Romans, King of the: *Weber.*
Rowner: *Prideaux-Brune.*